

Supplementary Materials for

Title: Aibp-mediated Cholesterol Efflux Instructs

Hematopoietic Stem and Progenitor Cell Fate

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contributed to human blood collection and data analysis; R.W. and F. X. contributed to ATAC-seq library generation and sequencing. L.Z., D.T, J.C and P.W provided constructive suggestions and experimental materials. D.W., P.W., W.L., Y.M., D.T., J.C., L.Z., K.C., Y.B. and L.F. critically revised the manuscript.

Materials and Methods

Animal husbandry

Zebrafish lines and *Ldlr*^{-/-} (B6) mice were maintained as previously described (25, 26) and in accordance with Houston Methodist Research Institute Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) regulations and under the appropriate project protocols.

Generation of transgenic zebrafish lines

Tg(kdrl:Gal4ER^{T2}): a 6.8 kb fragment of *kdrl* promoter/enhancer sequence, which drives EC-specific gene expression (10), was cloned and replaced the ubiquitin promoter in the *ubiquitin:Gal4ER^{T2}-ACR* vector (27) using primers (*kdrl*-F: 5'-TTGTTTAAGCTTGA TAAGCTTTTTCTTTTTTATTTAAAATTAATGTAATAC-3'; *kdrl*-R: 5'-CACCGG CCATGTGCGATTTGTCTGTTAAAATAACGTCCCGAATG-3'). *Tg(UAS:Flag-nSrebp2-2A-mCerulean3)*: a PCR-amplified *mCerulean3* (Addgene plasmid, #54730) was used to replace the EGFP site in the *pBT2-4×UAS:EGFP* vector (Halpern Lab #744) to generate *pBT2-4×UAS:mCerulean3* vector. The 2A (5'-GCTACTAACTTCAGCCT GCTGAAGCAGGCTGGAGACGTGGAGGAGAACCCTGGACCT-3') sequence was cloned in-frame upstream of *mCerulean3* to generate *pBT2-4×UAS:2A-mCerulean3* vector. The NH₂-terminal segment of zebrafish *Srebp2* (460aa) was ligated in-frame with *2A-mCerulean3*. To generate *Tg(UAS:NICD-2A-mRFP)*, a PCR-amplified 2A-mRFP from *pCS2-SmaI-2A-mRFP* was cloned to replace EGFP site in the *pBT2-4×UAS:GFP* vector to generate the *pBT2-4×UAS:2A-mRFP* vector. The zebrafish Notch intracellular domain (NICD) (28) was inserted in-frame into the upstream of the 2A-mRFP to create the *pBT2-4×UAS:NICD-2A-mRFP* vector. All plasmids had a mini *Tol2* element to facilitate genomic integration in zebrafish. One-cell stage zebrafish embryos were microinjected with 25 pg of the final transgenic DNA construct along with 50 pg *Tol2 transposase* mRNA. Positive F0 founders were backcrossed with wild-type AB zebrafish and F1 offspring were further screened to assess germline transmission. Positive founder lines were identified according to *mCerulean3* or *mRFP* expression in F1 larvae treated with 4OHT. F1 zebrafish were used to generate embryos for all experiments described.

MO and mRNA injections

Morpholino antisense oligos (MOs) used in this study were synthesized by Gene Tools. The MO sequences are: Control: 5'-CCTCTTACCTCAGTTACAATTTATA-3', *apo1bp2* (NCBI Gene ID: 557840): 5'-GTGGTTCATCTTGATTTATTCGGC-3' (5), *srebf2* (NCBI Gene ID: 100037309) MO: 5'-TCCATGTTTCTCCACCTTCTCTC-3'. MO were diluted in RNase-free water, and then mixed with RNase-free phenol Red solution to achieve a concentration of 0.2 mM (control MO), 0.1 mM (*apo1bp2* MO) or 0.2 mM (*srebf2* MO). For mRNA injection, equal volume of MO and mRNA were mixed to make a final concentration of 100-150 ng/μl *apo1bp2* or transcriptionally active N-terminal *srebf2* mRNA with 0.1 mM *apo1bp2* MO or 0.2 mM *srebf2* MO, respectively. Each one-cell stage embryo was injected with 1 nl MO or MO in combination with

mRNA using a microinjector FemtoJet[®] 4i (Eppendorf).

Aibp2 antibody injection

Zebrafish antibody injection was performed as previously described (29). Briefly, one-cell stage zebrafish embryos were collected and 1 nl of heat-inactivated (30 min at 72°C) zebrafish Aibp2 antibody (1), or normal Aibp2 antibody (30 min at room temperature) were injected. The resulting embryos were raised to the indicated stages for whole mount in situ hybridization analysis.

CRISPR/Cas9-mediated gene ablation

The CRISPR/Cas9-mediated gene disruption method in zebrafish was conducted as previously described (30). The target sequences for *apoa1bp2* and *sreb2* were 5'-TGTTGAGACGGAGCTCCTGA-3' and 5'-GCCCGTGGGGCTCTGGACAG-3', respectively. In brief, 2 µl of each of the two complementary target oligonucleotides (100 µM) was annealed by incubating the mixture at 95°C for 5 min, and the annealed oligos were then inserted into the pT7-gRNA vector. The linearized template DNA was used for guide-RNA (gRNA) synthesis using HiScribe[™] T7 Quick High Yield RNA Synthesis (New England Biolabs). The gRNA was purified using *mirVana* miRNA isolation kit (Invitrogen), and the size and quality of resulting gRNA was confirmed by electrophoresis through a 2% (wt/vol) formaldehyde agarose gel. The pCS2-nCas9n was linearized and capped nls-zCas9-nls RNA was synthesized using mMACHINE mMESSAGE SP6 kit (Invitrogen). The gRNA (25 ng/µl) and Cas9 RNA (200 ng/µl) mixture was injected into one-cell stage WT (AB) embryos. At 5 dpf, genomic DNA of the resulting embryos was prepared using Genomic DNA extraction kit (Zymo Research). A short genomic region flanking the target site was PCR amplified from the genomic DNA. The PCR amplicons were purified using QIAquick PCR Purification kit (Qiagen), and a total of 200 ng of the purified PCR products were denatured and reannealed to facilitate heteroduplex formation. The reannealed amplicon was then digested with 1 units of T7 endonuclease I (New England Biolabs) at 37 °C for 4 hr. The samples were then resolved by agarose gel electrophoresis (2-2.5%) and visualized by Gel red staining. The F0 animals were crossed with AB zebrafish to obtain F1. To assess genetic disruption, the target region in F1 animals was PCR amplified and the resulting amplicons were cloned into pMD20 TA vector (Clontech). The plasmids of the resulting colonies were isolated and sequenced.

Chemical treatments

Four-hydroxy-tamoxifen (4OHT) (H7904, Sigma) was dissolved in ethanol at 10 mM and stored at -20°C. Embryos were incubated with 5 µM of 4OHT or equal amount of control vehicle (ethanol) in E3 medium (5 mM NaCl, 0.17 mM KCl, 0.33 mM CaCl₂, 0.33 mM MgSO₄ and 0.1% methylene blue) from 6 to 26 hpf. Atorvastatin (PZ0001, Sigma) was dissolved to a concentration of 2 mM in ethanol, and was further diluted to 1 µM working solution using E3 medium. All embryos were treated with chemicals from 6 to 26 hpf.

Cell culture

Human umbilical vein endothelial cells (HUVECs) were cultured in EBM-2 medium (Lonza) as previously described (5, 31). Methyl-β-cyclodextrin (MβCD) was obtained

from Sigma (C4555) and prepared in serum-free EBM-2 medium. Mouse C166 endothelial cell (EC) line (ATCC, CRL-2581) were cultured in Dulbecco's Modified Eagle's Medium (DMEM), supplied with 10% fetal bovine serum (FBS).

Lentivirus infection

The C166 ECs were infected with the third generation lentiviral system following Addgene Lentiviral Guide. The plasmids: pRSV-Rev (Addgene, #12253), pMDLg/pRRE (Addgene, #12251), and pMD2.G (Addgene, #12259) were gifted from Dr. Didier Trono (32); pLJM1-EGFP (Addgene#19319) was from the Sabatini lab (33). After the cells were infected with nuclear Srebp2 overexpression virus for 96 hr, the supernatant was discarded and the selection medium was added (DMEM supplemented with 10% FBS and 5 µg/mL puromycin) to establish nuclear Srebp2 (nSrebp2) stable cell line.

HDL₃ isolation

We obtained fresh plasma of healthy donors from the blood bank at Houston Methodist Hospital. KBr was added to the plasma and prepare a plasma density of 1.12 g/mL and subjected to ultracentrifugation at 35,000 rpm for 2 days at 4°C (ThermoFisher Sorvall WX 80). The fractions containing HDL were transferred to a new tube and used to prepare a KBr density of 1.21 g/mL. After an additional spin at 40,000 rpm for 3 days at 4°C, the HDL₃ fraction was collected and dialyzed against PBS with 2 mM EDTA. The purity of HDL₃ was validated by FPLC analysis and Coomassie Blue staining of SDS-PAGE-separated HDL₃. The HDL₃ preparation was assessed for possible endotoxin contamination using a LAL kit (ThermoFisher). The HDL₃ used for our cell culture assays contained endotoxin levels less than 50 pg/mg proteins, corresponding to 2.5 pg/mg in the cell culture media.

Quantitative RT-PCR

Quantitative RT-PCR (qRT-PCR) was performed as previously described (34). Briefly, RNA was isolated from zebrafish embryos using an RNeasy kit (Qiagen, 74104), and cDNA was reversely transcribed using the qScript cDNA supermix (Quanta Biosciences, Gaithersburg, MD). SYBR green-based (Genesee Scientific) qRT-PCR reactions were performed using the QuantStudio™ 12K Flex Real-Time PCR System (Invitrogen) according to the manufacturer's instructions, and biological triplicates were included for each sample. The mRNA expression levels of the investigated transcripts were normalized to that of *efla*. Primers used in qRT-PCR were: *efla* (GenBank Accession # NM_131263), *efla*-F (5'-ACCGCCATCTGATCTACAA-3') and *efla*-R (5'-CAATGGTGATACCACGCTCA-3'); *srebf1* (GenBank Accession # NM_001105129.1), *srebf1*-F (5'-AGACTCTCTACAGCTCCTACAC-3') and *srebf1*-R (5'-CTGGATCGTCATTGGCTGAATA-3'); *srebf2* (GenBank Accession # NM_001089466.1), *srebf2*-F (5'-GATTCTGGAGACACAGGAAAC-3') and *srebf2*-R (5'-CTCTGGATAACACTGACAGACAC-3'). Mouse *Runx1* (GenBank Accession # NM_001111021.2), *Runx1*-F (5'-GGACATTCGGTCTTAGGGATTT-3') and *Runx1*-R (5'-CCTCAACATCTCATGCCTTCT-3'); mouse *Efla1* (GenBank Accession # NM_010106.2), *Efla1*-F (5'-GATCGATCGTCGTTCTGGTAAG-3') and *Efla1*-R (5'-AGTGGAGGGTAGTCAGAGAAG-3').

Whole-mount *in situ* hybridization (WISH)

WISH was performed as previously described (35). Briefly, embryos were fixed overnight with 4% paraformaldehyde (PFA) in phosphate buffered saline (PBS). Fixed embryos were rehydrated stepwise from methanol to PBS-0.1% Tween 20 (PBT) and subjected to proteinase K treatment. Afterwards, samples were washed in PBT and refixed at room temperature. After a wash with PBT, embryos were prehybridized at 70°C for 4 hr in the hybridization buffer (50% formamide, 5 × SSC, 500 µg/ml torula yeast tRNA, 50 µg/ml heparin, 0.1% Tween 20, 9 mM citric acid, pH 6.5), then hybridized overnight in hybridization buffer containing digoxigenin (DIG) labelled riboprobes. After hybridization, the experimental samples were washed sequentially at 70°C for 10 min, with each wash using the hybridization buffer 2 × SSC mixes (75%, 50%, 25%), followed by two washes with 0.2 × SSC for 30 min at 70°C. Additional sequential washes were performed at room temperature with 0.2 × SSC in PBT (75%, 50%, 25%). Samples were then incubated in PBT with 2% heat-inactivated goat serum and 2 mg/ml bovine serum albumin (blocking solution) for 4 hr and then incubated overnight at 4°C in blocking solution containing diluted DIG-antibodies (1:5,000) conjugated with alkaline phosphatase (AP) (Roche). To visualize WISH signals, samples were washed in AP reaction buffer (100 mM Tris-HCl, pH 9.5, 50 mM MgCl₂, 100 mM NaCl, 0.1% Tween 20) and then incubated with the AP reaction buffer that contains NBT/BCIP substrate (Promega) for appropriate time. The reaction was stopped using Stop buffer (1 × PBS pH 2.2, 1 mM EDTA, 0.1% Tween 20) when a proper signal was visualized under a dissection microscope.

Western blot

Zebrafish or HUVECs were lysed on ice with the lysis buffer (50 mM Tris-HCl, pH 7.5, 4 mM sodium deoxycholate, 1% Triton X-100, 150 mM NaCl, 1 mM EDTA and a protease inhibitor cocktail from Sigma). Western blotting was performed as previously described (36). Briefly, protein concentration was determined with a Pierce BCA Protein Assay Kit (Thermo Scientific) and an equal amount of proteins were separated on 4-15% a Mini-PROTEAN TGX Precast Protein Gel (Bio-rad). The proteins in gel were then transferred to Immobilon-P Membrane (Millipore), which was blocked with 5% non-fat milk dissolved in 0.05% Tween-20 in TBS (TBST) for 1 hr at room temperature, and then was incubated with the corresponding primary antibody overnight at 4 °C. After three washes with TBST, the membranes were further incubated with a HRP-conjugated secondary antibody for 1 hr at room temperature. The blot was developed using the Amersham ECL Prime Western Blotting Detection Reagent (GE Healthcare, #RPN2232). The antibodies used were: Guinea Pig anti-Aibp2 (5), mouse anti-Srebp2 (Novus, #NBP1-54446), mouse anti-LAMIN A/C (Cell Signaling, #4777S), rabbit anti-β-Tubulin (Cell Signaling, #2148S), goat anti-Guinea Pig HRP-conjugated antibody (Jackson Labs, #106-035-003), goat anti-mouse HRP-conjugated antibody (Jackson Labs, #115-035-003), and goat anti-rabbit HRP-conjugated antibody (Jackson Labs, #111-035-144).

Free cholesterol measurement

Free cholesterol content in zebrafish was measured using a colorimetric assay (BioVision) as previously described (5). Sixty embryos were pooled for each sample measurement. Total cholesterol content in mouse plasma was measured in the Mouse

Metabolism Core at Baylor College of Medicine.

Fluorescence Activated Cell Sorting (FACS) analysis of HSPCs in zebrafish

FACS analysis was performed using *Tg(cmyb:GFP; kdrl:mCherry)* HSPC reporter zebrafish as previously described (37, 38). Briefly, one-cell stage *Tg(cmyb:GFP; kdrl:mCherry)* embryos were injected with 1 nl of control (0.2 mM), *apoa1bp2* (0.1 mM), or *srebf2* (0.2 mM) MOs and collected at 48 hpf. Approximately 50 embryos per group were dissociated, resuspended in 1 × DPBS with 2% heat-inactivated FBS, and analyzed by BD LSR II flow cytometer in the presence of SYTOX Red Dead Cell stain (5 nM; Life Technologies). Data were analyzed using FlowJo software.

Confocal microscopy

Anaesthetized zebrafish embryos (treated at 10 hpf with 0.003% 1-phenyl 2-thiourea) were housed in a sealed chamber (Invitrogen) in a small drop of 0.02% tricaine (Sigma) containing E3 medium and imaged using a Olympus FluoView FV1000 confocal microscope. Z-stacks were acquired with a 3- μ m step, and max-projection confocal images analyzed using ImageJ software (NIH). All three-dimensional reconstructions were performed with the same threshold settings.

Srebp2 binding site prediction

The Srebp2 binding sites on *notch1b* and *ldlr* promoters were predicted using Jaspar (http://jaspar.genereg.net/cgi-bin/jaspar_db.pl).

Chromatin immunoprecipitation (ChIP)

The ChIP assays were performed as previously described (35). Briefly, *Tg(kdrl:Gal4ER^{T2}; UAS:Flag-nSrebp2-2A-mCerulean3)* embryos were treated with 5 μ M 4OHT or an equal amount of ethanol at 6 hpf, AGM regions were isolated from the 26 hpf embryos, and cross-linked in 2.2% PFA. After termination of crosslink using 0.125 M glycine and subsequent PBS washing, the nuclei were disrupted in lysis buffer (50 mM Tris-HCl [pH 8.0], 10 mM EDTA, 1% SDS, protease inhibitors, and phosphatase inhibitors). The nuclear extracts were then sonicated to generate chromatin DNA fragment (300-600 bp). Following removal of cell debris, 5% of the sample was kept as input and the rest in IP dilution buffer (16.7 mM Tris-HCl [pH 8.0], 167 mM NaCl, 1.2 mM EDTA, 1.1% Triton X-100, and 0.01% SDS, protease inhibitors). Sample extracts were pre-cleared for 2 hr at 4 °C using 2 μ g sheared salmon sperm DNA (Life Technologies) and 45 μ l of protein A Sepharose (50% slurry in dilution buffer) (Sigma). Immunoprecipitations were carried out overnight at 4 °C with an anti-Flag antibody (Sigma, F3165). Immune complexes were captured with protein A Sepharose and washed three times with low salt buffer (20 mM Tris-HCl [pH 8.0], 0.1% SDS, 1% Triton, 2 mM EDTA, 200 mM NaCl) and additional three times with TE. The immune complexes were then eluted with 1% SDS (v/v), 0.1 M NaHCO₃, and heated overnight at 65°C to reverse the cross-link. After proteinase K digestion (100 μ g/ml, 1 hr at 50°C), DNA fragments were purified on QIAquick Spin columns (Qiagen) in 50 μ l elution buffer and 1 μ l was used for each qPCR reaction. Primer sequences are listed below. Data were presented as enrichment of the precipitated target sequences, as compared to the input DNA.

Primers used for ChIP-qPCR

| Gene | Primer Sequences (5' - 3') |
|----------------|---|
| Zebrafish | |
| <i>notch1b</i> | site1-F: CAGTCATCAGAAGCATGCGA |
| | site1-R: ACTTTAGATGTGTGCGCTCTG |
| | site2-F: AGCATTTCATTGCAGCTCATTC |
| | site2-R: CACGCCCTCCCTTTAAACT |
| | nonbinding-F: GGGTTGACTTATGGCAGGTATTA |
| | nonbinding-R: CGTCCCAAATGGAGCACTAA |
| <i>ldlr</i> | F: GATAAGCCGAGTAGCTGAAAGT |
| | R: GGGATTTCGGTGGTGTGATTTA |
| Mouse | |
| <i>Notch1</i> | F: CGG GCT CGT TCC TTC AC |
| | R: AGA GCC TCA CTA GTG CCT |
| | nonbinding-F: CAA AGG CTC TGA GGC AGA A |
| | nonbinding-R: GTG AGC AGG CTC TGG AAA T |
| <i>Ldlr</i> | F: CGC TCA GTG AGG TGA AGA TT |
| | R: GCA CGC CCA GAG TCA TT |
| | nonbinding-F: GCA GAG GCA GGT GGA TTT |
| | nonbinding-R: TCT AGC CCA TCT TTG GTT GAT T |
| <i>Hmgcr</i> | F: GCC GCC AAT AAG GAA GGA T |
| | R: CAG TGG GCG GTT GTT AGG |
| | nonbinding-F: CAT CCT GGG TCC TAC ATG AAA C |
| | nonbinding-R: GAT TAA CCA CAG GAG TGA TCC G |
| <i>Srebf2</i> | F: GAG TCC CGC TAT GCA AAT CT |
| | R: CCC AAG TTT GTT GTC AAT GGG |
| | nonbinding-F: CCT TGA TAG CGA TCG AGT TAC C |
| | nonbinding-R: GCA AAG CCA AGT AAG GAA GAT G |

High cholesterol diet feeding of zebrafish and Western diet feeding of mice

Tg(cmyb:EGFP; kdrl:mCherry) double transgenic fish were fed either control diet or the same diet supplemented with 4 % w/w cholesterol (HCD) for one month, as previously described (39). Eight weeks old *Ldlr*^{-/-} mice were fed control diet, Western diet (WD, 42% fat and 0.2% cholesterol from Envigo, Cat No. TD88137), or betulin diet (WD supplemented with 600 ppm betulin) for 16 weeks.

Murine AGM and bone marrow isolation and FACS analysis

Embryos from timed pregnant female *Ldlr*^{-/-} mice were micro-dissected for isolation of E11.5 AGM regions as previously described (40, 41). Tissues were dissociated by treatment with 0.25% collagenase at 37 °C for 30 min and filtered through a 70-µm cell strainer. Cells were immunostained with the following antibodies and used for FACS analysis after proper wash with DPBS plus 2% FBS. Antibody information: biotin mouse anti-Rat IgG2a (Cat No. BDB553894), rat anti-mouse CD144 (Cat No. BDB555289), anti-mouse CD117 (c-Kit) APC (Cat No. 50-112-9173), mouse anti-mouse CD45.2 PE-Cy7 (Cat No. BDB560696) and PE-streptavidin (Cat No. BDB554061).

Bone marrow was collected for the analysis of HSPCs 16 weeks after feeding WD or WD with betulin, as previously described (42). In brief, bone marrow was flushed from the tibia and femur bones with DPBS plus 2% FBS, dissociated to single cell suspension, and filtered through a 70 µm cell strainer. The resulting single cell suspension was subjected to RBC lysis (Cat No. 555899) and incubation with the following antibodies from Biolegend: Pacific Blue anti-mouse Lineage Cocktail (Cat No. 133310), PerCP/Cy5.5 anti-mouse Ly-6A/E (Sca-1) antibody (Cat No. 108124) and APC/Cy7 anti-mouse CD117 (c-kit) (Cat No. 105826). The immunostained cells were analyzed using a five-laser BD LSR II flow cytometer.

RUNX1 immunostaining

The E11.5 embryos from pregnant female C57BL/6J (JAX, Stock No: 000664) mice were micro-dissected for isolation of AGM regions as above described. The c-Kit⁺CD144⁺CD45.2⁻ cells were collected and specimens were prepared using cytospin. Specimens were fixed in 4% PFA for 20 min, and then permeabilized in 0.3% Triton X-100 in PBS for 10 min. After blocking with 5% BSA in PBS for 1 hr at room temperature, the specimens were immunostained with anti-RUNX1 antibody (Santa Cruz Biotechnology, Cat. No. sc-365644) in blocking buffer at 4 °C overnight. After proper wash, the specimens were incubated with Alexa Fluor 594-conjugated secondary antibodies for 1 hr at room temperature, and then with DAPI for 5 min following PBS wash. After mounting in anti-fade mounting medium, the images were captured using Olympus FV 1000 confocal microscope.

Bromodeoxyuridine (BrdU) incorporation and immunostaining

BrdU incorporation assays were carried out as previously described (43). In brief, *Tg(cmyb:GFP)* embryos were incubated with 10 mM BrdU on ice for 30 min and incubated with E3 medium in the 28°C incubator for an additional 2 hr. Embryos were then fixed in 4% PFA at 30 or 36 hpf. Subsequently, the embryos were dehydrated with methanol and stored at -20°C overnight. After rehydration, the embryos were treated with 10 µg/ml Proteinase K for 30 min and re-fixed in 4% PFA for 30 min. After blocking with blocking buffer (1% BSA, 10% normal goat serum, 0.3% Triton-X100 and 1% DMSO in PBST) for 2 hr at room temperature. The embryos were stained with anti-GFP primary antibody (Invitrogen) and corresponding Alexa Fluor 488-conjugated secondary antibodies (Invitrogen). The embryos were further treated with 2N HCl for 1 hr at room temperature, and immunostained with mouse anti-BrdU primary antibody (Roche) and proper Alexa Fluor 594 secondary antibody (Invitrogen). Images were captured using Olympus FV 1000 confocal microscope.

Assay for Transposase-Accessible Chromatin sequencing (ATAC-seq)

The ATAC-Seq was performed using 50,000 c-Kit⁺CD144⁺ CD45.2⁻ cells isolated from AGM region of E11.5 wild-type B6 mouse embryos. The Tn5 transposome was purified and assembled following a published protocol (44). The permeabilization was performed with 50 μ l cold ATAC-RSB buffer (0.1% NP40, 0.1% Tween-20, and 0.01% Digitonin) and the transposition was performed with 50 μ l transposition mix (10 μ l 5 \times HEPES DMF Buffer, 3 μ l 5 μ M Tn5 transposome, 37 μ l PBS, 0.5 μ l 10% Tween-20, and 0.5 μ l 1% digitonin) and incubated at 37° for 30 min. After transposition, the cleaned-up DNA fragments were pre-amplified for 5 cycles using NEB Q5 master mix. Each reaction contains 2.5 μ l of 25 μ M i5 primer, 2.5 μ l of 25 μ M i7 primer, 25 μ l 2 \times NEB Q5 master mix, and 20 μ l cleaned up samples. PCR settings were 5 min at 72°C, 30 sec at 98°C, and followed by additional 5 cycles (98°C for 10 sec, 63°C for 30 sec, 72°C for 1 min). After pre-amplification, 1 μ l of the pre-amplified mixture was used to run a 10 μ l qPCR test to determine the optimal amplification cycle. The final amplified DNA library was purified using Qiagen DNA purification kit and sequenced on NextSeq 500 with SE75 strategy.

Volunteer recruitment

Two hundred Chinese male subjects (age 45.00 \pm 10.57 years) were recruited for this study at the Outpatient Center, Department of Geriatric Medicine of Xiangya Hospital, Central South University between February and May 2017. All subjects underwent comprehensive physical examinations and routine biochemical analyses of peripheral blood (table S4). Exclusion factors included diseases affecting the metabolic state or not suitable to participate in this study, which includes hyperthyroidism, hypothyroidism, cancer, or other disorders affecting the functions of heart, liver, or kidney, etc. The study was approved by the human research ethics committee of Xiangya Hospital at the Central South University, and informed consents were obtained from all subjects.

Human blood collection and analysis

Five ml of intravenous blood samples from the healthy individuals were collected after 12 hr of overnight fasting. Plasma was separated and stored at -80°C. Plasma LDL-C was determined by enzymatic methods using a Hitachi 7600 analyzer. The CD34⁺CD45⁺ HSPC population of the blood samples were immunostained and determined by FACS according to the International Society of Hematotherapy and Graft Engineering (ISHAGE) guidelines (45).

Position-wise cumulative analysis of Srebp2 binding motif or Srebp2 ChIP-Seq peak enrichment relative to TSS

To determine the enrichment levels of Srebp2 binding motif (Fig. 4C) or binding sites (Fig. S18C) near individual TSS groups, we developed CAGRE, a new bioinformatics tool for Cumulative Analysis of Genomic Region Enrichment. CAGRE can be downloaded at <https://github.com/jielv/CAGRE> and adopted for the analysis of other transcription factors.

Statistical analysis for Fig. S20D

The statistical analysis was performed using SPSS 21.0 (Chicago, Illinois, USA). Data were expressed as mean±SD. Mann-Whitney U test was applied for comparison between the low LDL-C and high LDL-C groups. Spearman's correlations were used to examine the association of plasma LDL-C and other parameters, and $p < 0.05$ was considered statistically significant.

Data Analysis

ChIP-seq and ATAC-seq analyses

We used Bowtie v1.1.0 to map sequencing reads to the mouse reference genome version mm9, requiring single best match for each read across the genome. We used the Dpeak function in DANPOS v2.2.3 to calculate reads density as the number of mapped reads covering each base pair (bp) of the genome and to define enriched peaks with read density cutoff being Poisson test P value $1e-8$. For each dataset, we normalized the total number of mapped reads to 25 million and extended each read at the 3' end to be 200 bp long. The function Dpeak in DANPOS v2.2.3 also accounts for variations between biological replicates of the same ChIP/ATAC experiment. We set the bin size to 10 bp, and set the smooth width to 0 bp so that there was no additional smoothing step in the calculation of reads density. Input effect was subtracted from the ChIP-Seq data by DANPOS v2.2.3. For reference gene set, we downloaded the KnownGene provided at the Table Browser page of UCSC Genome Browser (<http://genome.ucsc.edu/cgi-bin/hgTables>). We used the function Profile in DANPOS v2.2.3 to plot average reads density around transcription start sites (TSS) or gene body and generated data matrices for heat maps of ChIP-Seq reads density around each TSS. To map peaks to individual genes, we used the function Selector in DANPOS v2.2.3 to retrieve peaks that were located within the region from -5 kb to +5 kb with respect to TSS.

RNA-Seq analysis

For RNA-seq data, we used TopHat v2.0.12 to map the raw reads in FASTQ format to the mm9 mouse reference genome with the following parameters settings: --mate-std-dev 200 -p 8 -r 200. The mapped reads for each sample were saved in a BAM format file and we used UCSC KnownGenes as reference genes. The BAM file and reference genes were subjected to the Cuffdiff function in Cufflink suite v2.2.1 to calculate read counts and gene expression (fragments per kilobases per million, or FPKM). To identify differentially expressed genes based on read counts between different RNA-Seq samples, we used the normalizeQuantiles, estimateCommonDisp and estimateTagwiseDisp functions in the R package edgeR v3.14.0 to normalize the read counts, estimate common dispersion, and estimate moderated tag-wise dispersion, respectively. The edgeR then defined differential genes based on a negative binomial test. In the final list of differential genes, we required each differential gene to have a differential FDR value smaller than 0.05 and FPKM value larger than 1 in at least one sample. We used the tool MultiExperimet Viewer (MEV v10.2) to plot the heat maps of relative expression levels for differentially expressed genes between ECs and HECs or between HECs and HSCs.

Function enrichment analysis

We used DAVID v6.7 (<https://david.ncifcrf.gov>) for Gene Ontology and KEGG pathway analysis. Gene Ontology Biological processes or KEGG pathways with p values smaller than 0.05 were defined as significantly enriched.

Motif analysis

We used HOMER v4.10 to detect known Srebp2 binding motif instances around gene promoters and to infer de novo Srebp2 binding motif from Srebp2 ChIP-Seq data (17). For known Srebp2 motif instance detection, we downloaded the position weight matrices (PWM) from the JASPAR 2018 core database. We scanned the Srebp2 PWD using annotatePeaks.pl program of HOMER to find instances of motifs near Srebp2 ChIP-Seq peaks. Motif density profile across Srebp2 peaks with positive hits was generated using the “-hist” parameters of annotatePeaks.pl program and homemade python script. We used findMotifsGenome.pl program of HOMER to infer de novo Srebp2 binding motif using 400 bp regions around the center of Srebp2 binding peaks.

Experimental design and statistical analysis

All animal experiments were performed using randomly assigned embryos without the investigator’s blinding. Sample sizes were chosen after estimating effect size, and data were analyzed for statistical significance after at least three independent repeats. All the data were representative of three independent experiments using three different clutches of embryos and were expressed as Mean±SE. Statistical differences were analyzed using unpaired two-tailed Student’s t-tests unless otherwise specified, with $p < 0.05$ considered as statistically significant. * $p < 0.05$; ** $p < 0.01$; *** $p < 0.001$; **** $p < 0.0001$; NS, not significant.

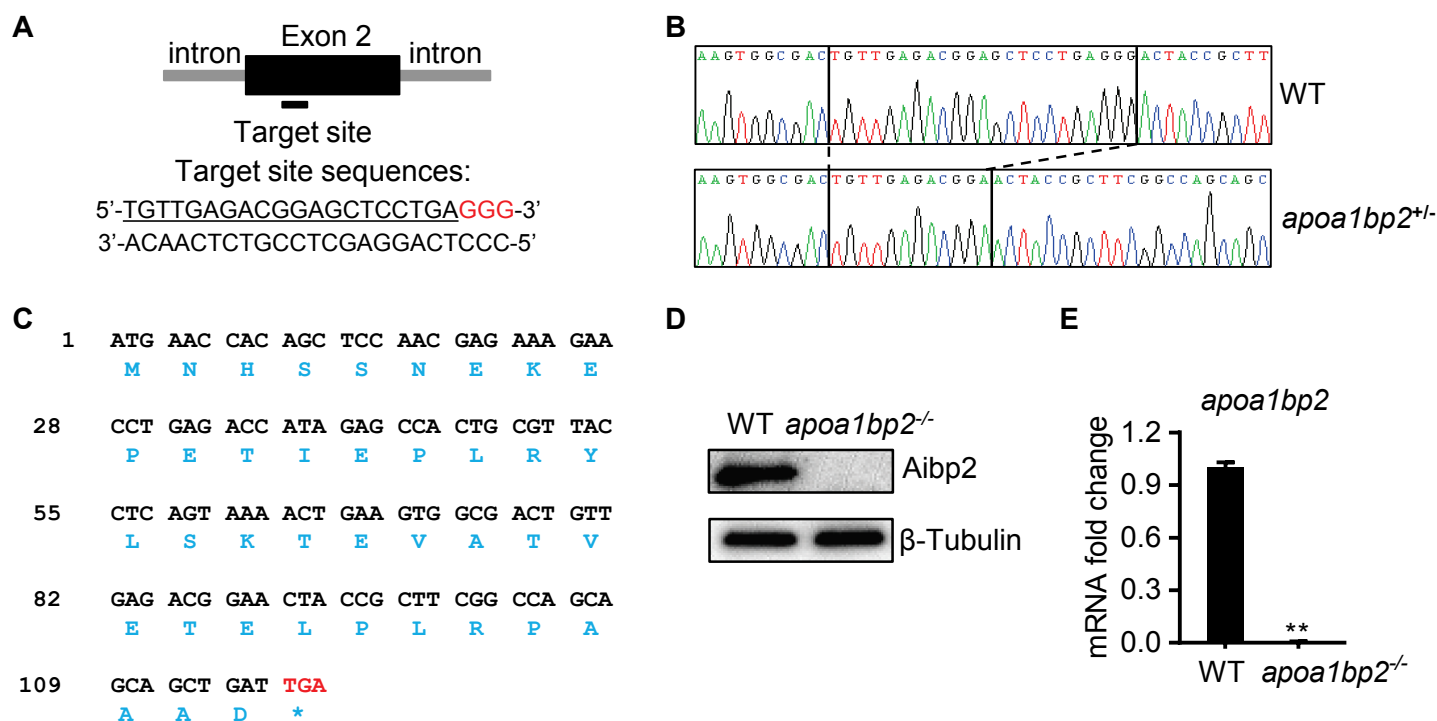


Fig. S1. Generation of Aibp2 knockout zebrafish. Diagram showing position of the target site and its sequence (underline) in zebrafish *apoA1bp2* locus. PAM sequence (GGG) is shown in red. **B.** Sanger sequencing result of heterozygous mutants revealed an 11-bp genomic DNA fragment deletion from the target site. The PCR amplicons that span the mutated *apoA1bp2* region were ligated into a T-vector and subsequently transformed into competent cells. Single positive colonies were selected for sequencing. **C.** The 11-bp deletion resulted in a presumptive stop codon (red) in Exon2 of *apoA1bp2*. **D** and **E.** Western blot and qRT-PCR analyses of pooled 26 hpf zebrafish (n=20) show the absence of Aibp2 (**D**) and *apoA1bp2* mRNA (**E**).

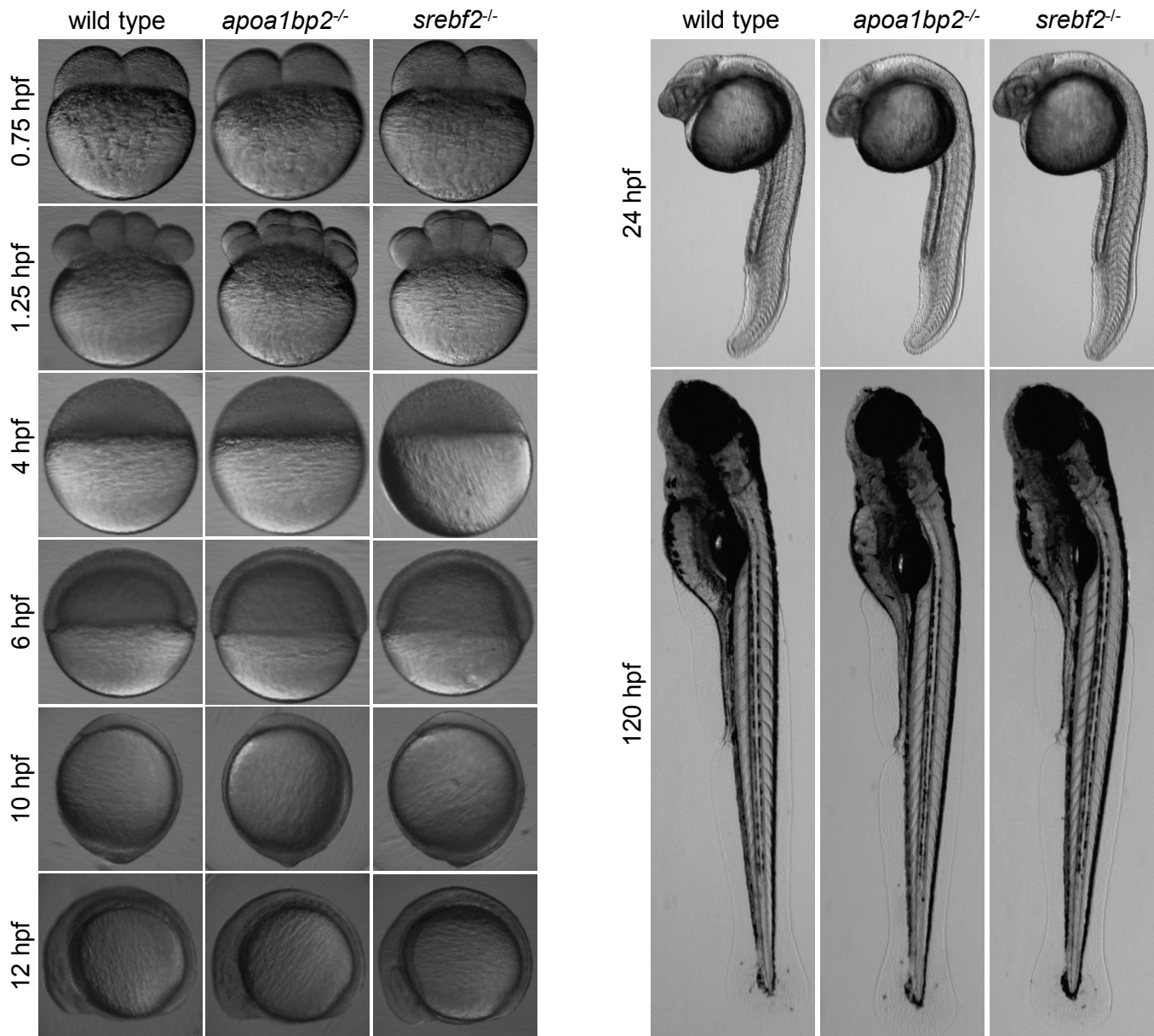


Fig. S2. No gross phenotypic defect observed in Aibp2 and Srebp2 knockout zebrafish. Zebrafish embryos at the indicated developmental stages were collected and images of live zebrafish embryos captured. hpf: hour(s) post fertilization.

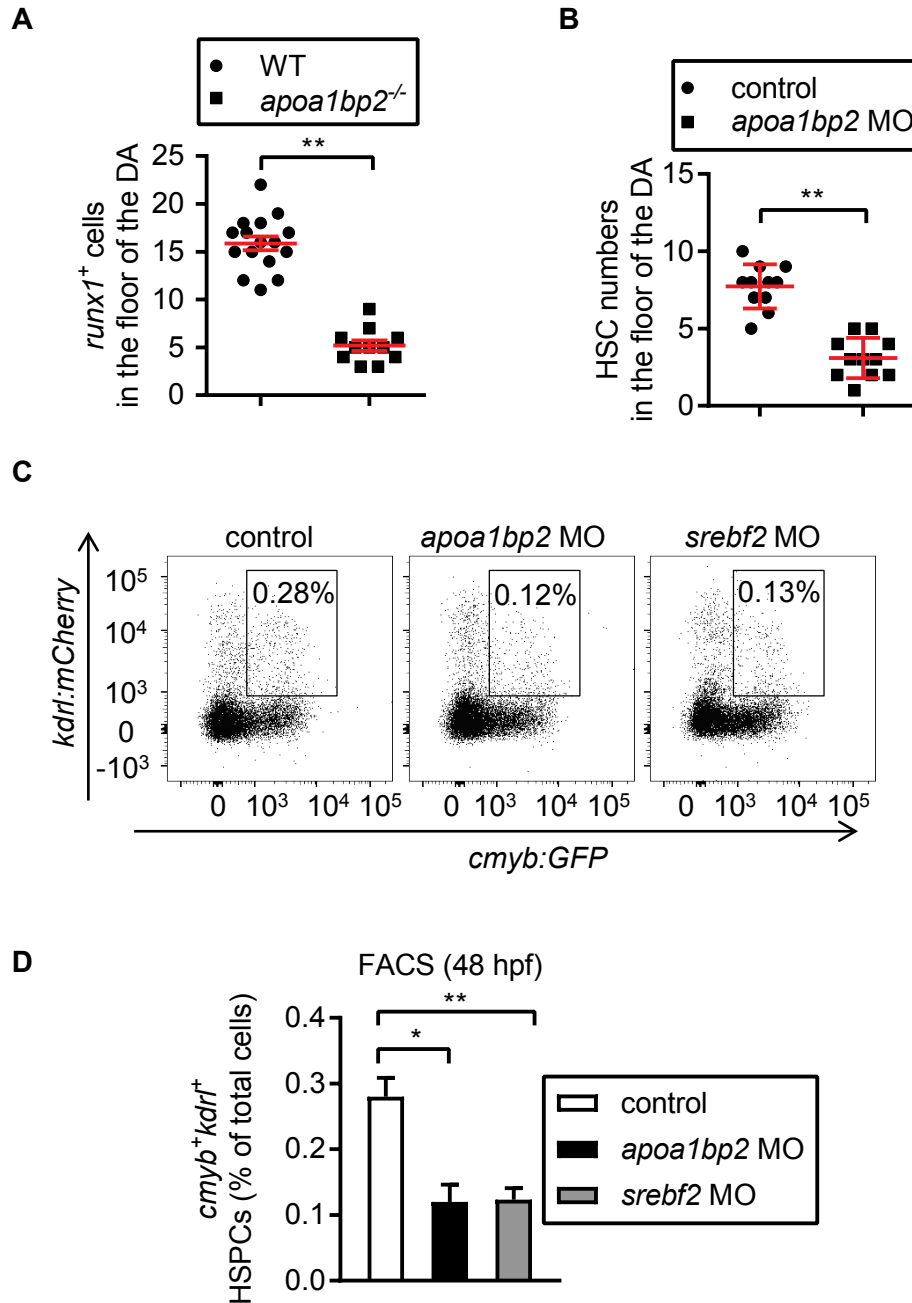


Fig. S3. Loss of Aibp2 impedes hematopoiesis. **A.** Quantification of *runx1*⁺ HSCs in the floor of DA in **Fig. 1A**. **B.** Quantification of *cmyb*⁺*kdrl*⁺ HSCs in **Fig 1B**. The whole animals of 48 hpf *cmyb:GFP*; *kdrl:mCherry* zebrafish was homogenized and *cmyb*⁺*kdrl*⁺ HSCs were analyzed using FACS (**C**) and quantified (**D**) in control, Aibp2, or Srebp2 knockdown animals. Mean±SE; *p<0.05; **p<0.01.

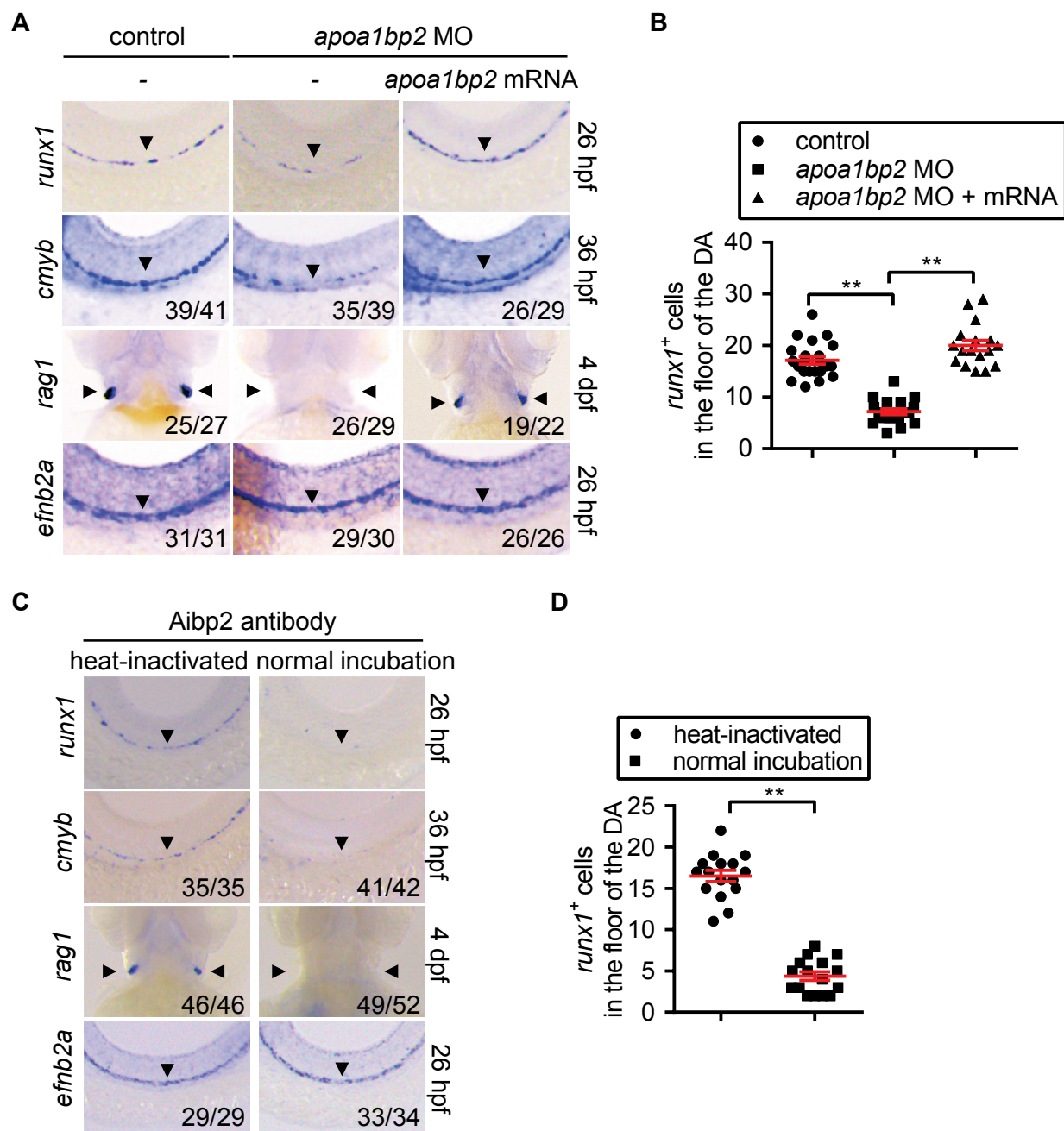


Fig. S4. Aibp2 deficiency impairs HSPC emergence. **A.** WISH analysis of *runx1*, *cmyb*, *rag1*, and *efnb2a* expression in control MO-injected (control), *apoa1bp2* MO-injected or a combination of *apoa1bp2* MO and *apoa1bp2* mRNA-injected embryos at the indicated time on the right. Arrowheads denote DA or thymus. **B.** Quantification of *runx1*⁺ HSCs in panel **A**. **C.** Expression of *runx1*, *cmyb*, *rag1*, and *efnb2a* in control (heat-inactivated) or Aibp2 antibody-injected animals. Arrowheads indicate the location of DA or thymus. **D.** Quantification of *runx1*⁺ HSCs in panel **C**. Mean±SE; **p<0.01.

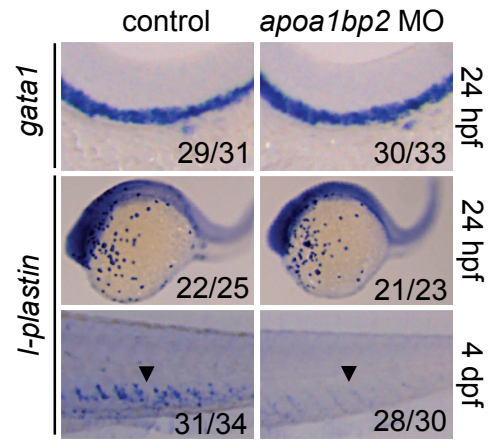


Fig. S5. Aibp2 knockdown has no effect on primitive hematopoiesis. WISH analysis of *gata1* and *l-plastin* in the control or *apoa1bp2* morphants. Arrowheads indicate *l-plastin*⁺ leukocytes derived from definitive hematopoiesis.

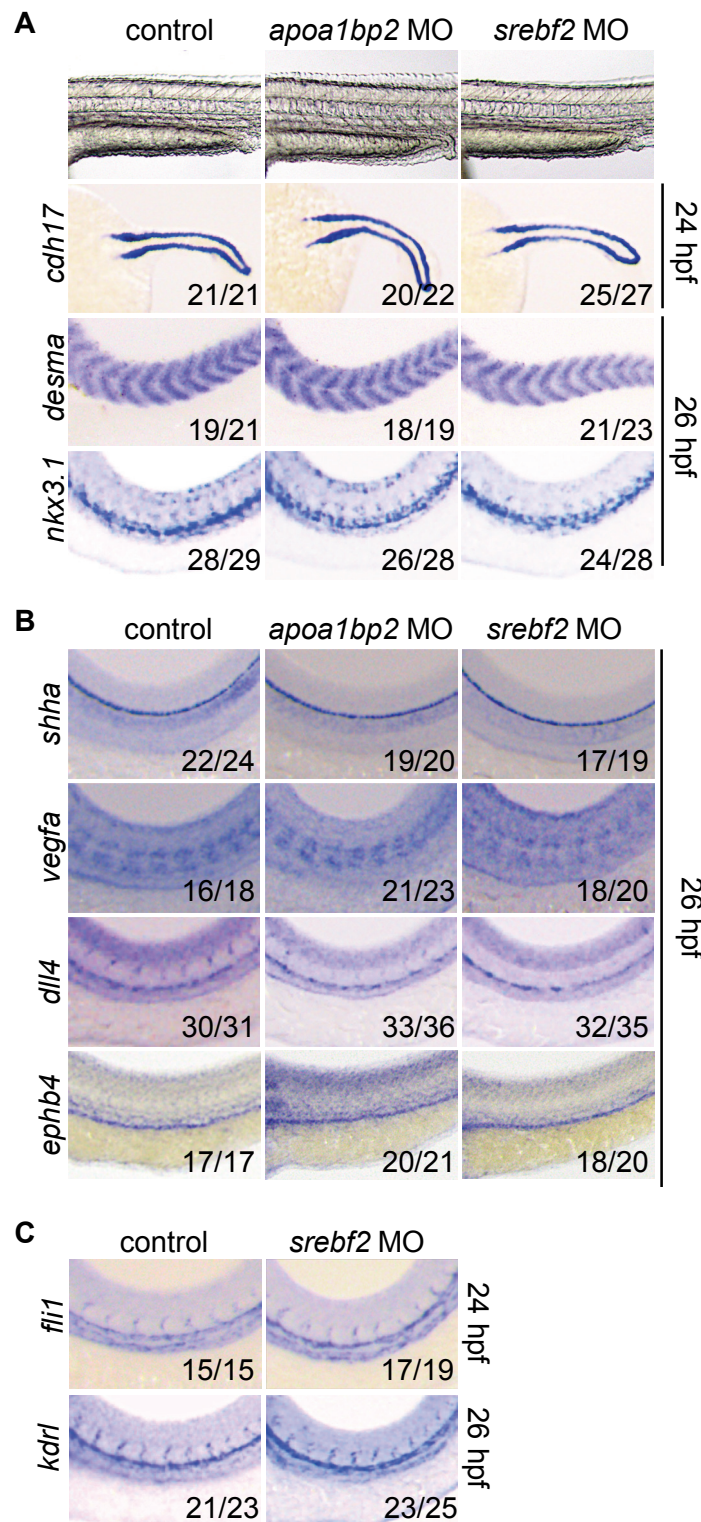


Fig. S6. Normal arterial specification and muscle development in *apoa1bp2* or *srebf2* morphants. **A.** Bright field image and expression of *cdh17* (a pronephros marker), *desma* (a somite marker), and *nkx3.1* (a sclerotome marker) in control, *apoa1bp2*, or *srebf2* morphants. **B.** WISH analyses of *shha* and *vegfa* (two shh pathway genes), *dll4* (an arterial gene), and *ephb4* (a venous gene) in control, *apoa1bp2*, or *srebf2* morphants. **C.** The expression of *fli1* and *kdrl* (two pan-endothelial genes) in control or *Srebp2*-deficient animals.

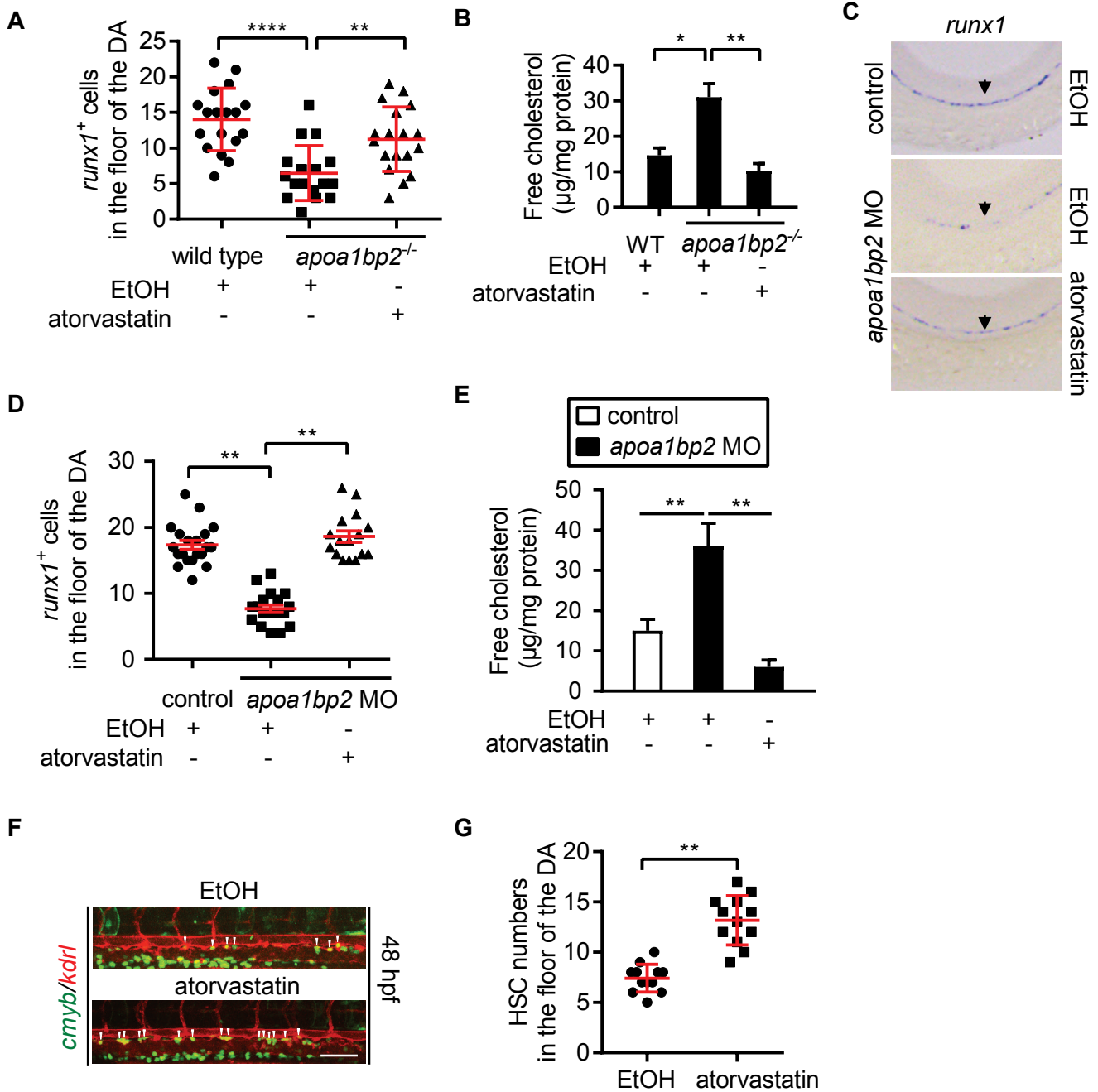


Fig. S7. Statin effect on hematopoiesis. **A.** Quantification of *runx1*⁺ HSCs in Fig. 1C. **B.** Free cholesterol measurements in control or *Aibp2* knockout zebrafish treated with vehicle (ethanol; EtOH) or atorvastatin (1 µM). **C.** The expression of *runx1* in control or *apo1bp2* morphants treated with vehicle (EtOH) or atorvastatin (1 µM). Arrowheads indicate DA. **D.** Quantification of *runx1*⁺ HSCs in the floor of DA of panel C. **E.** Free cholesterol measurements in the indicated embryos. **F.** Confocal imaging of HSC emergence in the transgenic *cmyb*:GFP; *kdr1*:mCherry zebrafish. **G.** Quantification of *cmyb*⁺*kdr1*⁺ HSCs in panel F. Scale bar: 100 µm. Mean±SE; *p<0.05; **p<0.01; ****p<0.0001.

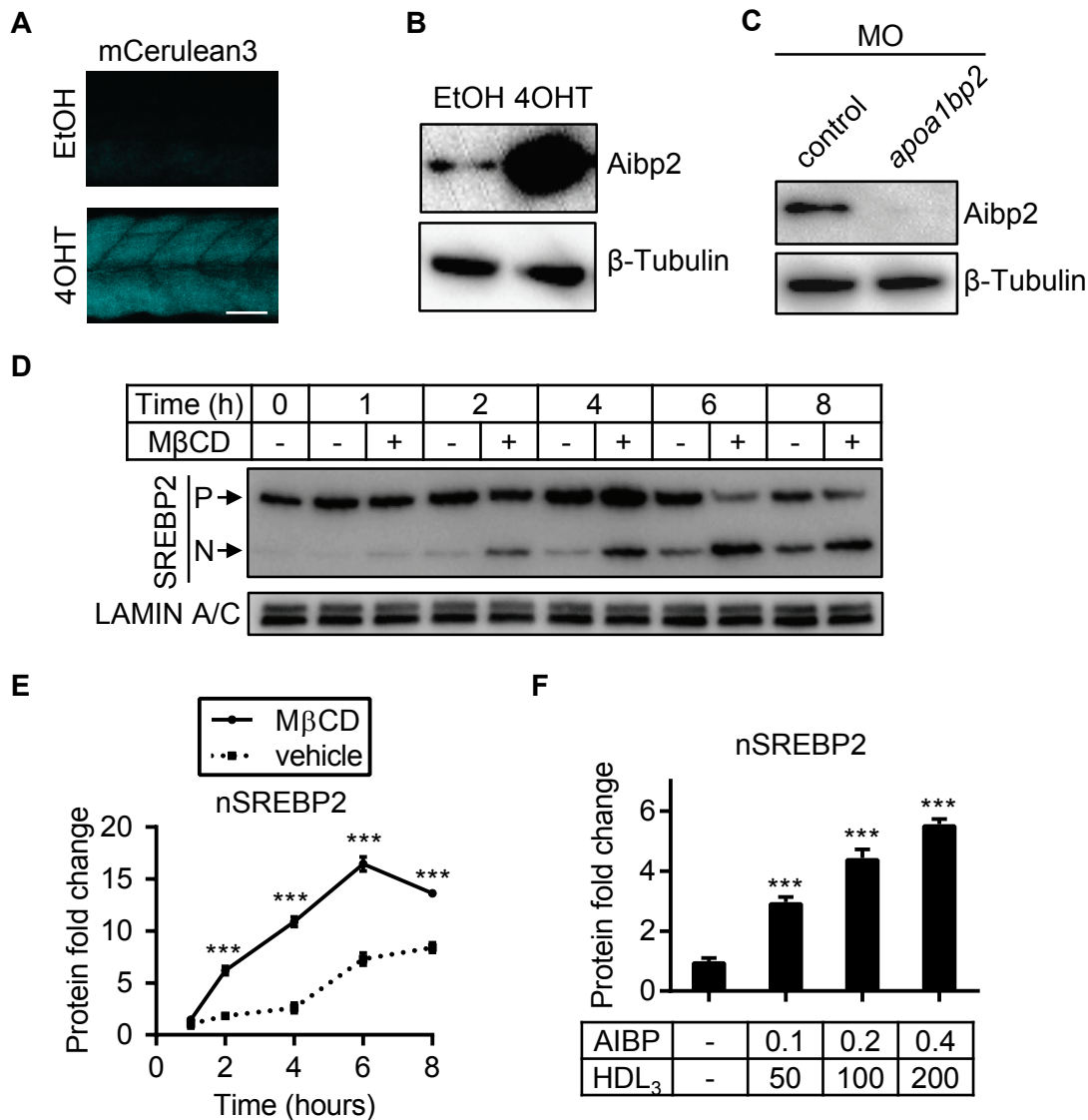


Fig. S8. AIBP activates Srebp2. **A.** 4OHT-induced Aibp2-2A-mCerulean3 expression in *hsp70:Gal4ERT²; UAS:apoa1bp2-2A-mCerulean3* transgenic zebrafish.

B. Immunoblots of Aibp2 expression in embryos from panel **A**. **C.** Immunoblotting of Aibp2 and β -Tubulin in control and *apoa1bp2* morphants. **D.** Immunoblots of SREBP2 in HUVECs pre-treated with M β CD or control media for 30 min, and then switch to serum-free EBM-2 medium for the indicated time. P, precursor form; N, nuclear form. **E.** Protein fold change of the transcriptionally active nuclear SREBP2 (nSREBP2) in panel **D**. **F.** Protein fold change of nSREBP2 in **Fig. 2D**. Statistical difference was measured using two-way ANOVA (**E**) and one-way ANOVA (**F**). Mean \pm SE; *** p <0.001. Scale bar: 100 μ m.

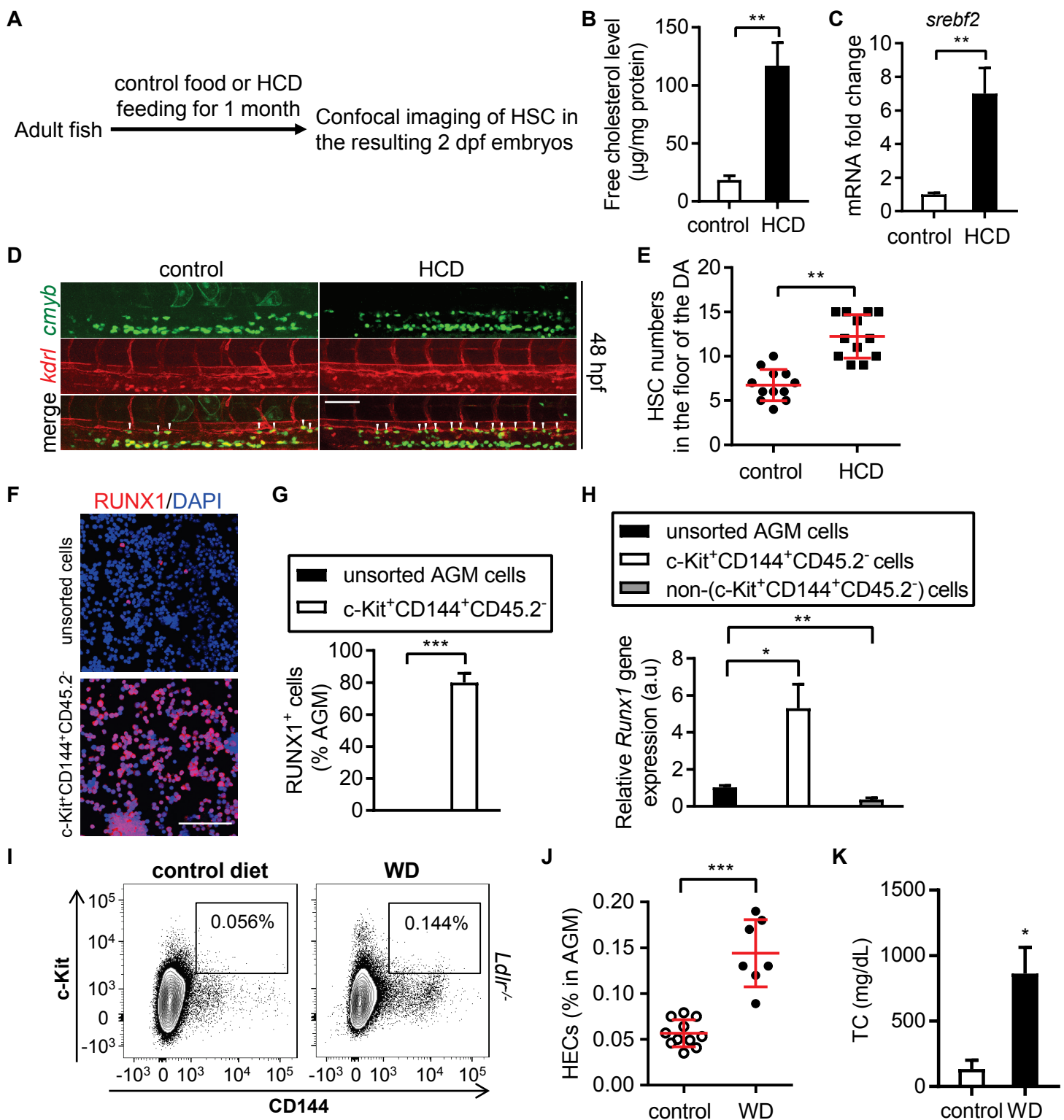


Fig. S9. Hypercholesterolemia augments HSC emergence. **A.** Experimental design. **B.** Free cholesterol measurements in the embryos produced from control or HCD-fed female zebrafish. **C.** Quantitative RT-PCR analysis of *srebf2* transcripts. **D.** Embryos produced from control or HCD-fed female zebrafish were imaged at 48 hpf by confocal microscope. Arrowheads show *cmyb*⁺*kdrl*⁺ HSCs in the floor of DA. **E.** Quantitative *cmyb*⁺*kdrl*⁺ cells in panel **D.** **F.** Confocal imaging of RUNX-1 antibody-stained unsorted AGM cells and HECs, which may contain a minor portion of hematopoietic precursors. **G.** Quantitative data of RUNX1⁺ cells (%) in the c-Kit⁺CD144⁺CD45.2⁻ cells and unsorted cells isolated from the AGM region. **H.** Quantitative RT-PCR analysis of relative *Runx1* gene expression in the indicated cell populations. The *Runx1* gene expression value was first normalized to that of *Ef1α* mRNA levels and then further normalized to the value of unsorted AGM cells. **I.** FACS analysis of HECs (c-Kit⁺CD144⁺CD45.2⁻). Eight week-old female LDLR knockout mice were fed with control or Western diet (WD) for 8 weeks, then E11.5 embryonic mice were obtained from these hypercholesterolemic females, and AGM dissected for FACS analysis. **J.** Quantification of HECs in embryos produced from control or WD-fed female mice. **K.** Total plasma cholesterol (TC) measurements. Mean±SE; *p<0.05; **p<0.01; ***p<0.001. Scale bar: 100 µm.

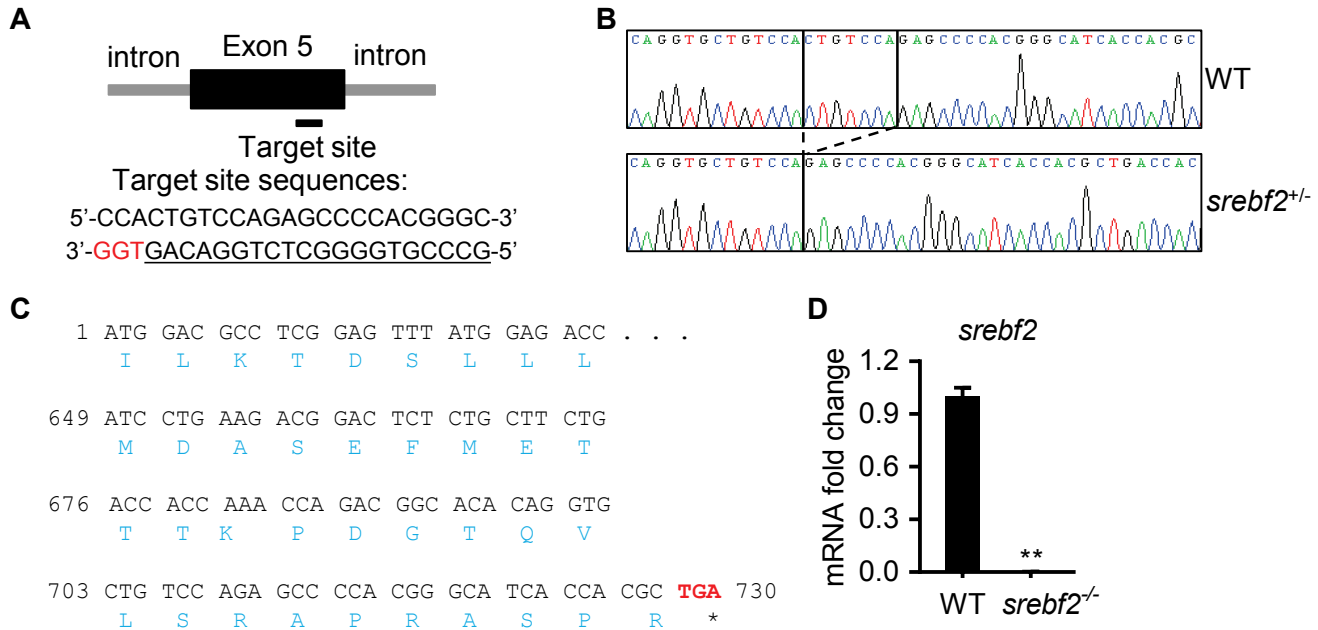


Fig. S10. Generation of Srebp2 knockout zebrafish.

A. Diagram showing position of the target site and its sequence (underline) in zebrafish *sreb2* gene locus. TGG (red) is the PAM sequence. **B.** Sanger sequencing result of a heterozygous mutant detected a 7-bp genomic DNA fragment deletion from the target site. Individual positive colonies containing the PCR amplicons that span the mutated *sreb2* region (in a T vector) were prepared and sent to DNA sequencing. **C.** The 7-bp deletion resulted in a new stop codon (red) that appeared in Exon 5 of *sreb2*. **D.** Quantitative PCR analysis of *sreb2* expression in WT and Srebp2 knockout zebrafish. Mean±SE; **p<0.01.

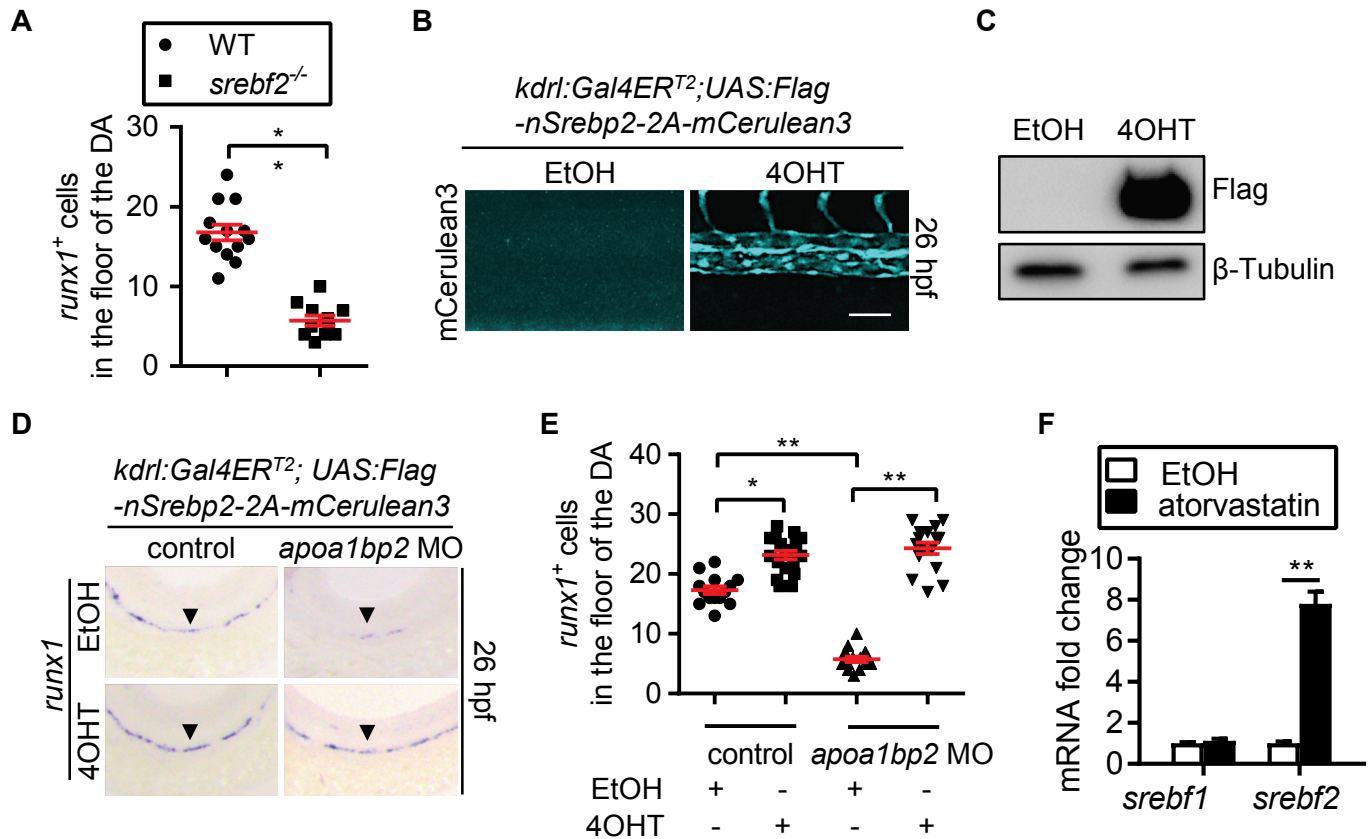


Fig. S11. Srebp2 deficiency impairs HSC emergence. **A.** Quantification of *runx1*⁺ HSCs in the floor of DA in **Fig. 3A**. **B.** mCerulean3 signals at 26 hpf in *kdrl:Gal4ERT²; UAS:Flag-nSrebp2-2A-mCerulean3* embryos treated with EtOH or 4OHT (6-26 hpf). **C.** Immunoblotting of Srebp2 expression in embryos from panel **B**. **D.** WISH analysis of *runx1* expression in control or Aibp2-deficient zebrafish treated with control vehicle or 4OHT. **E.** Quantification of *runx1*⁺ HSCs in the floor of DA in **D**. **F.** WT zebrafish were treated with EtOH or atorvastatin from 6 to 26 hpf, total RNA isolated, and qRT-PCR performed for *srebf1* and *srebf2*. Arrowheads in **D** indicate location of DA. Mean±SE; *p<0.05; **p<0.01. Scale bar: 100 μm.

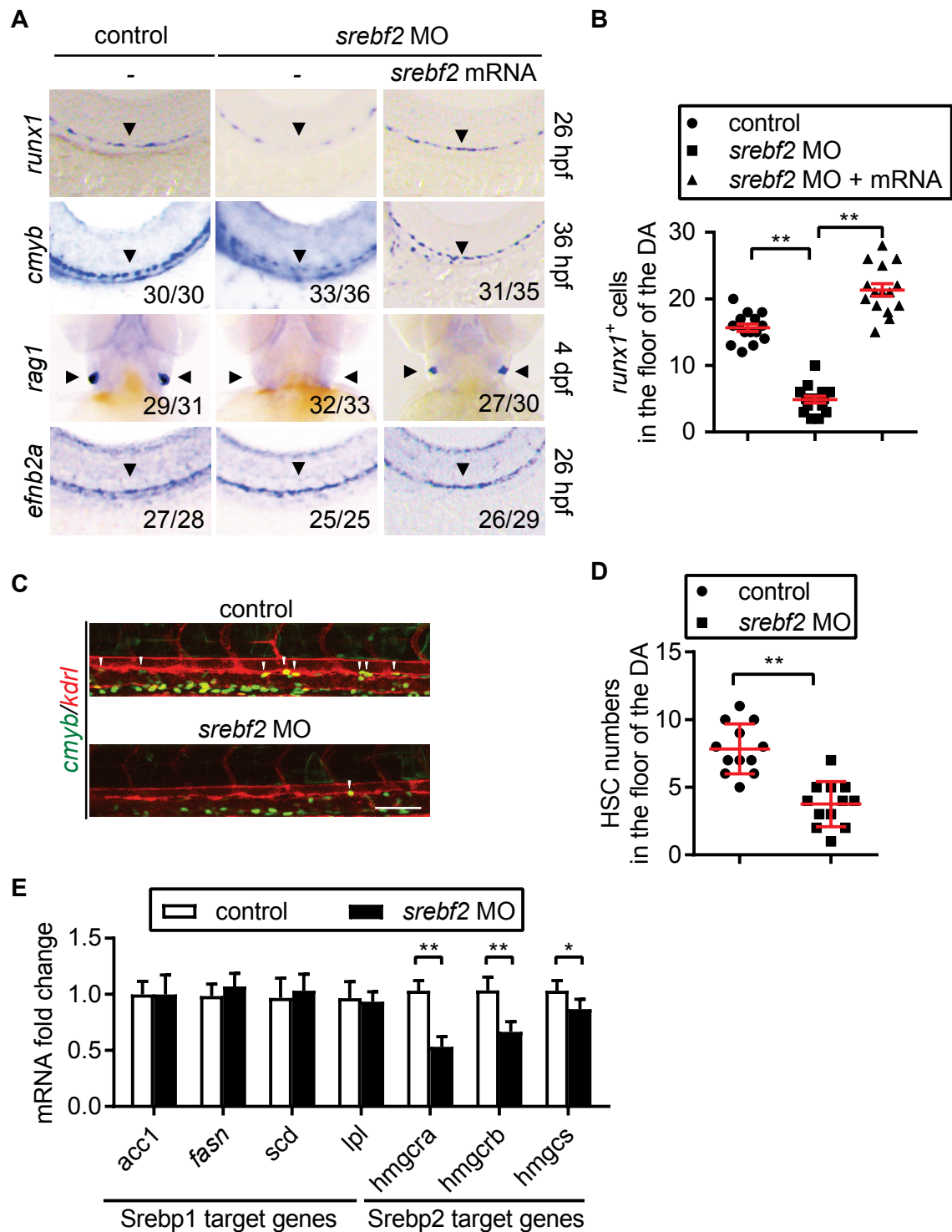


Fig. S12. Srebp2 knockdown impairs HSC emergence and its target gene expression.

A. Expression of *runx1*, *cmyb*, *rag1*, and *efnb2a* in control or Srebp2 knockdown animals at the indicated time. Arrowheads indicate DA or thymus. **B.** Quantitative data of *runx1*⁺ HSCs in panel **A**. **C.** Confocal imaging of *cmyb*⁺*kdrl*⁺ HSCs in the floor of the DA of control or Srebp2-deficient animals. Arrowheads show *cmyb*⁺*kdrl*⁺ HSCs in the floor of DA. **D.** The quantitative data of panel **C**. **E.** Quantitative RT-PCR analysis of Srebp1 and Srebp2 downstream gene expression in control or Srebp2 knockdown animals. Mean±SE; *p<0.05; **p<0.01; scale bar: 100 μm.

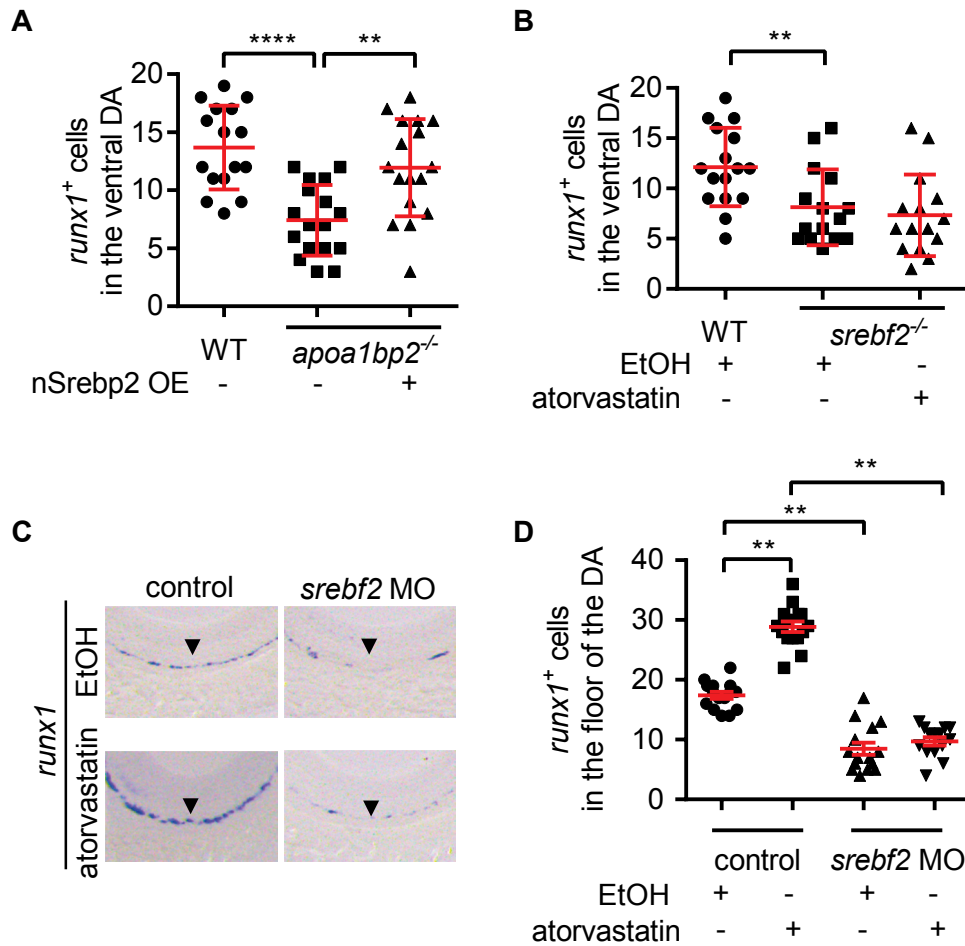


Fig. S13. The atorvastatin effect on HSC specification is dependent on Srebp2. A and B. Quantification of HSC in the floor of DA in **Fig. 3B (A)** and **Fig. 3C (B)**. **C.** The expression of *runx1* in control or *sreb2* morphants treated with EtOH or 1 μ M atorvastatin. **D.** The quantitative data of *runx1*⁺ HSCs in the floor of DA in panel **C**. Arrowheads in **C** indicate location of DA. Mean \pm SE; **p<0.01; ****p<0.0001.

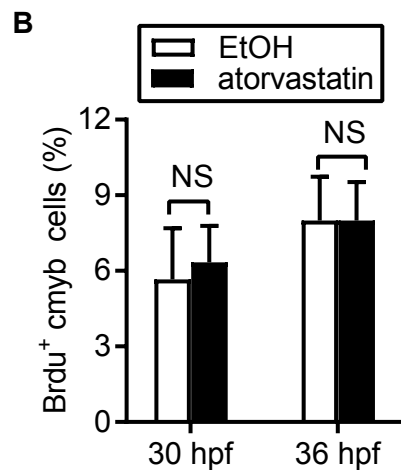
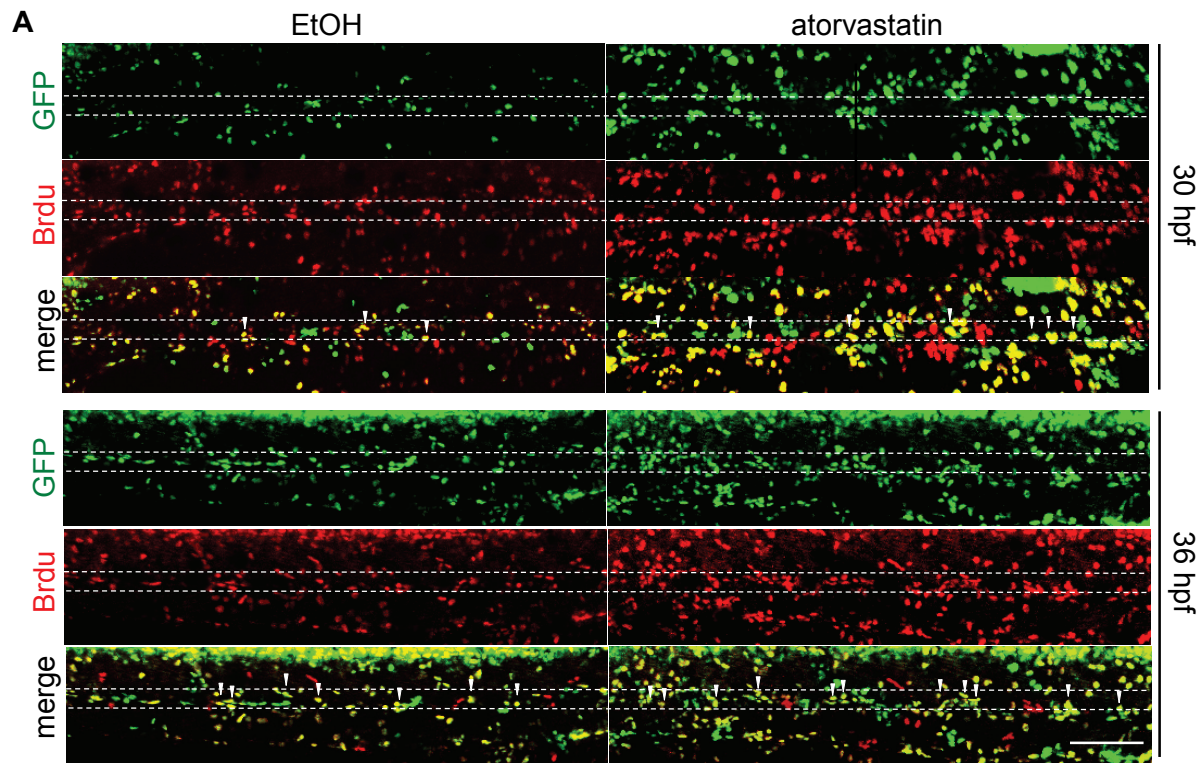


Fig. S14. Increased HSC emerge by atorvastatin treatment is not due to hyperproliferation. A. The *cmyb:GFP* zebrafish embryos were treated with atorvastatin or EtOH control (6-30 or 6-36 hpf), and BrdU incorporation into proliferating cells assessed by confocal microscopy. The two white dash lines indicate DA. Merged yellow signals show proliferating *cmyb*⁺ cells. Arrowheads indicate proliferating HSPCs. **B.** Quantitative data of proliferating *cmyb*⁺ cells at 30 and 36 hpf. Arrowheads show the proliferating *cmyb*⁺ HSPCs in the floor of the DA of EtOH or atorvastatin-treated animals. Mean±SE; NS: not significant. Scale bar: 100 μm.

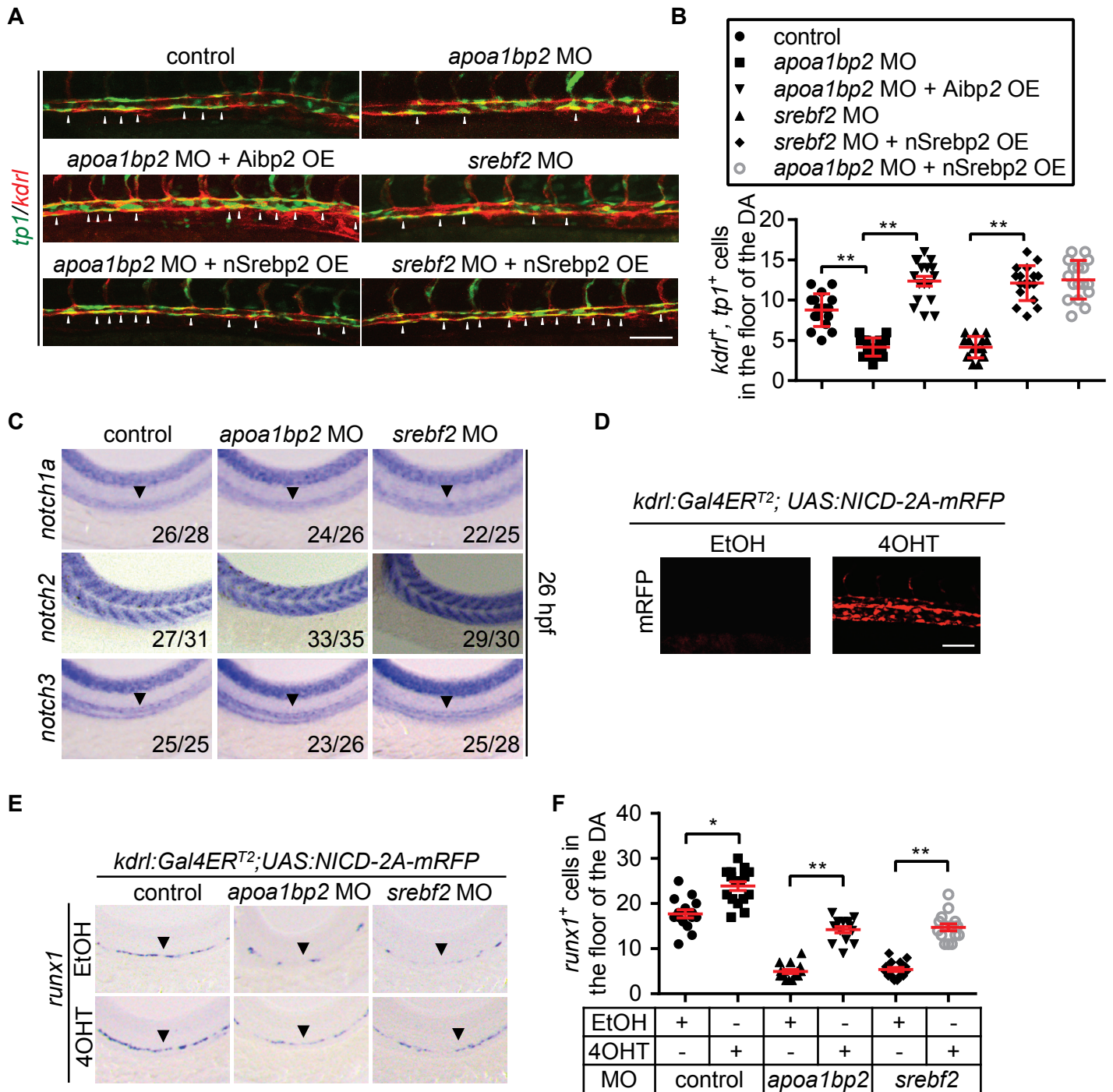


Fig. S15. A. Effects of *apoa1bp2* and *sreb2* deficiency on Notch signaling. **A.** The EGFP signal in the DA of 28 hpf *tp1:d2GFP; kdr1:mCherry* embryos injected with the indicated MOs, with or without Aibp2 or nSreb2 (N-terminal 460aa) mRNA overexpression (OE). Arrowheads denote HSPCs in the floor of the DA with active Notch signaling. **B.** Quantification of *tp1⁺kdr1⁺* HSPCs in panel **A**. OE: overexpression. **C.** WISH analyses of *notch1a*, *notch2*, and *notch3* in Aibp2-, Sreb2-deficient or control animals. Arrowheads show DA. **D.** The mRFP signals in 26 hpf *kdr1:Gal4ERT2; UAS:NICD-2A-mRFP* embryos treated with EtOH or 4OHT (6-26 hpf). **E.** The expression of *runx1* in the DA of the indicated zebrafish. Arrowheads indicate DA. **F.** Quantification of *runx1⁺* HSCs in the floor of DA in panel **E**. Mean±SE; * $p < 0.05$; ** $p < 0.01$. Scale bar: 100 μ m.

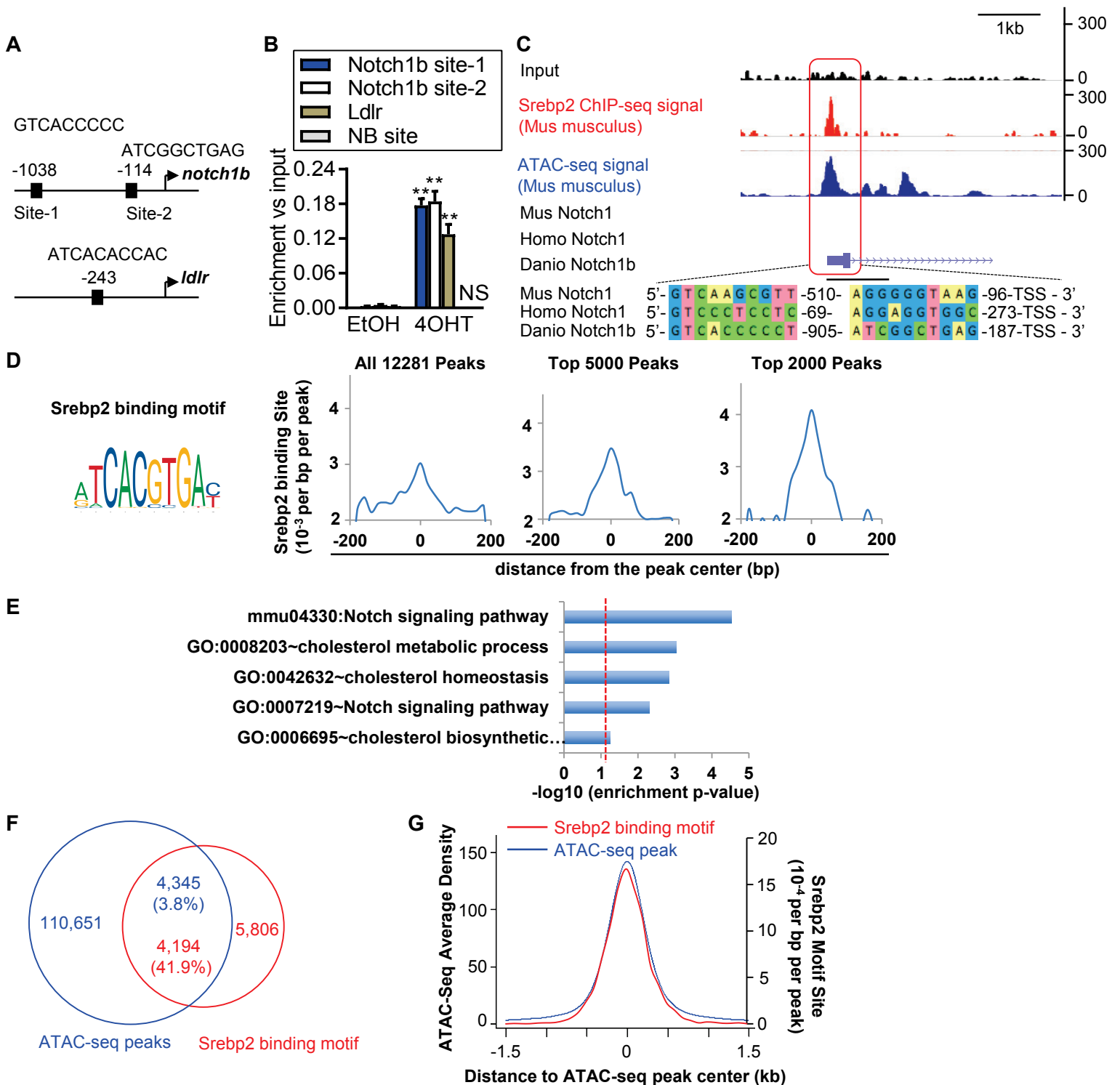


Fig. S16. Bioinformatics analysis of Srebp2 regulation of the Notch pathway. **A.** Predicted Srebp2 binding sites on *notch1b* and *ldlr* promoters by JASPAR. **B.** Promoter occupancy of the *notch1b*, *ldlr*, or non-binding (NB) site within *notch1b* intron. The *kdrl:Gal4ER^{T2}; UAS:Flag-nSrebp2-2A-mCerulean3* embryos were treated with EtOH or 4OHT from 6 to 26 hpf, ChIP assays were performed with an anti-Flag antibody, and qPCR conducted as indicated. **C.** Representative Srebp2 binding peaks on Notch1 promoter in mice. Bioinformatics analysis also identified similar Srebp2 binding motifs in human and zebrafish Notch1 genes. The numbers indicate distance between the two motifs. **D.** Average enrichment of Srebp2 binding motif towards the center of Srebp2 ChIP-seq peaks calculated with increasing stringency from left to right. **E.** Gene Ontology and KEGG pathway enrichment analyses reveal that genes with Srebp2 binding motif in their promoters are associated with the Notch pathway and cholesterol metabolism. Red line marks the value of $p=0.05$. **F.** Venn diagram showing the overlap between regions of ATAC-seq peaks and regions containing Srebp2 binding motif. **G.** Srebp2 binding motif enrichment in ATAC-seq peaks. Average density plots of ATAC-seq (left y-axis) and average enrichment of Srebp2 binding motif (right y-axis) ± 1.5 kb to the center of ATAC-seq peaks. Mean \pm SE; ** $p < 0.01$; NS: not significant.

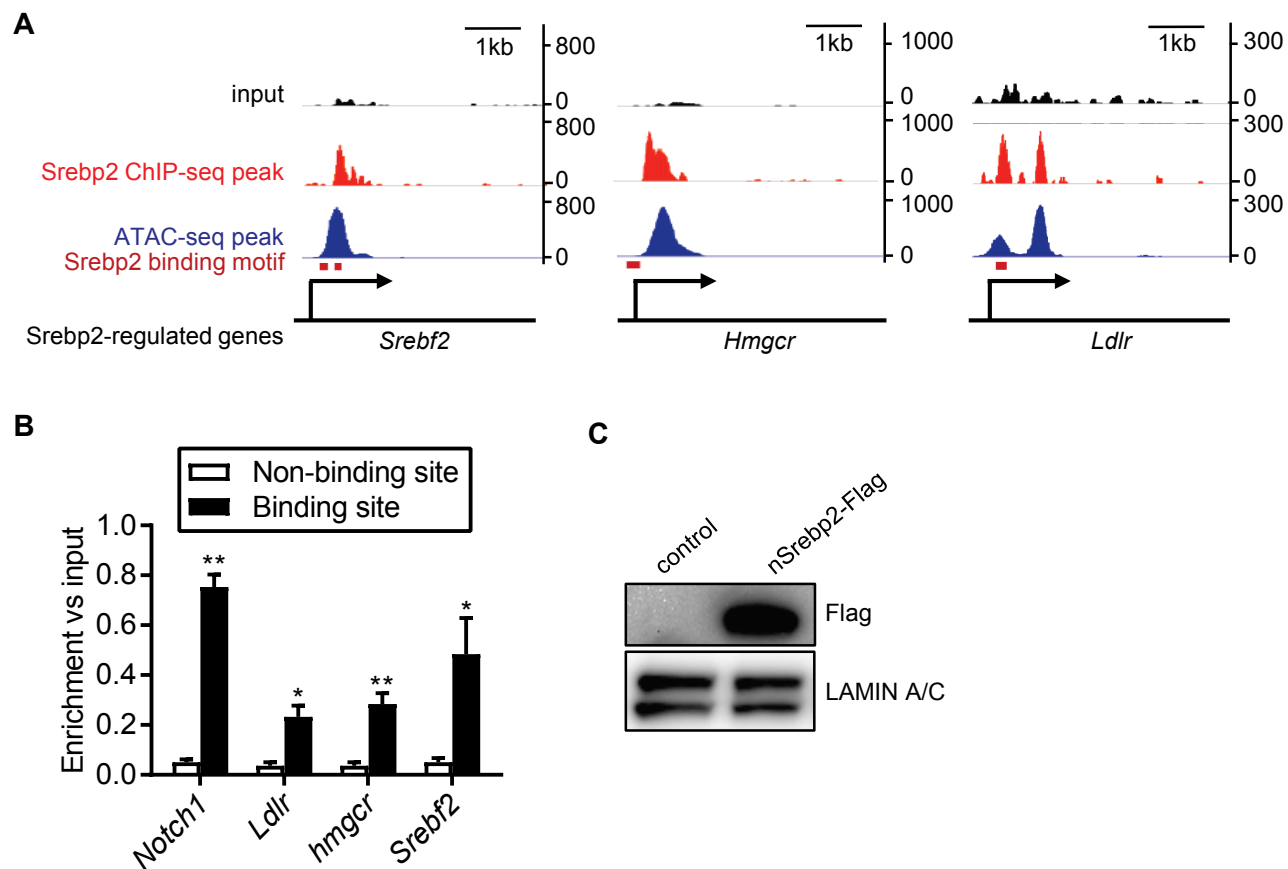


Fig. S17. Experimental validation of Srebp2 regulation of Notch pathway. **A.** Locations of Srebp2 ChIP-Seq peaks, ATAC-seq peaks and Srebf2 binding motifs are highlighted on the promoters of canonical Srebp2-regulated genes *Srebf2*, *Hmgcr*, and *Ldlr*. **B.** Validation of Srebp2 binding to its putatively regulated genes (*Ldlr*, *Hmgcr*, and *Srebf2*) and *Notch1*. Mouse ECs were infected with Lenti-nSrebp2-Flag. The infected cells were selected using puromycin for 1 month to establish stably nSrebp2-expressing cells, which were fixed and ChIP performed using an anti-Flag antibody, and qPCR conducted using primers listed in **materials and methods**. **C.** Immunoblotting of overexpressed active nuclear Srebp2 (nSrebp2), with LAMIN A/C serving as the loading control. Mean \pm SE; * p <0.05; ** p <0.01.

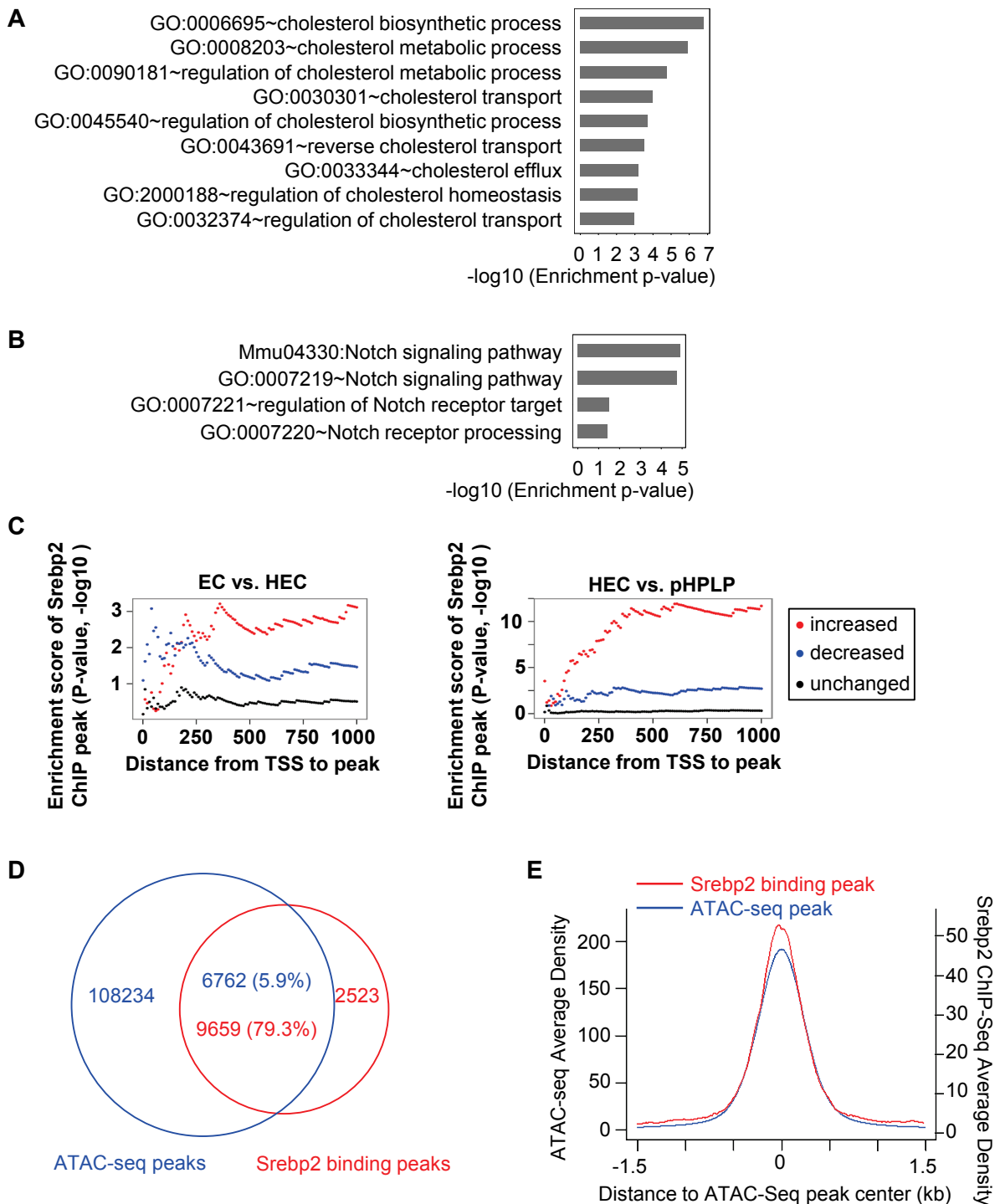


Fig. S18. Bioinformatics analysis and experimental validation of Srebp2 regulation of Notch pathway. Gene Ontology and KEGG pathway enrichment analyses show that Srebp2-bound genes are associated with the Notch pathway (**A**) and cholesterol metabolism (**B**). **C**. Mann–Whitney U test of p-value of Srebp2 binding peak enrichment (y-axis) in differentially expressed genes. X-axis represents the range of peak association cutoffs as measured by distances between translation start site (TSS) and Srebp2 binding peak in an individual gene. **D**. Venn diagram illustrating 79.3% of overlap between ATAC-seq peaks (blue) and Srebp2 binding peaks (red). **E**. Srebp2 binding peaks overlap ATAC-seq peaks. Average density plots of ATAC-seq (left y-axis) and Srebp2 ChIP-seq (right y-axis) ± 1.5 kb to the center of ATAC-Seq peaks.

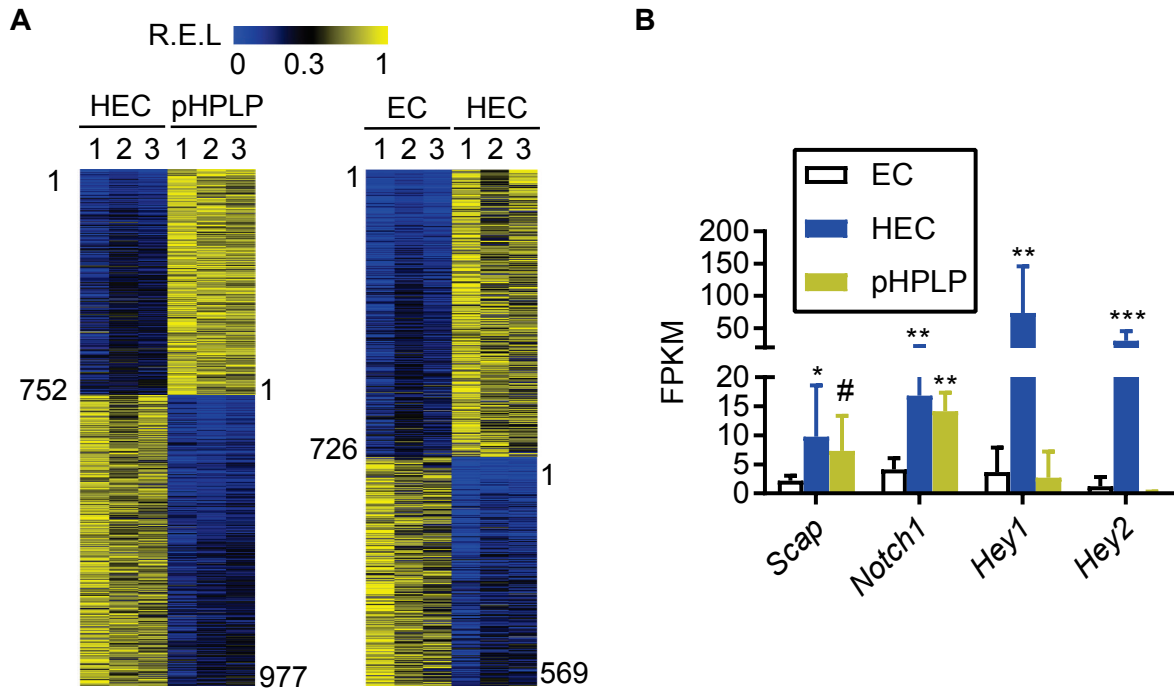


Fig. S19. Bioinformatics analysis of public RNA-seq data. **A.** Heat maps of relative expression levels (R.E.L.) of genes in isolated ECs, HECs, and pre-HSCs and progenitors with lymphoid potential (pHPLP). **B.** The mRNA levels of the indicated genes in the public RNA-seq dataset. FPKM: fragments per kilobase of transcript per million mapped reads. The p value was calculated using negative binomial test. Mean±SD; n=3. #, p=0.08. *p<0.05; **p<0.01; ***p<0.001.

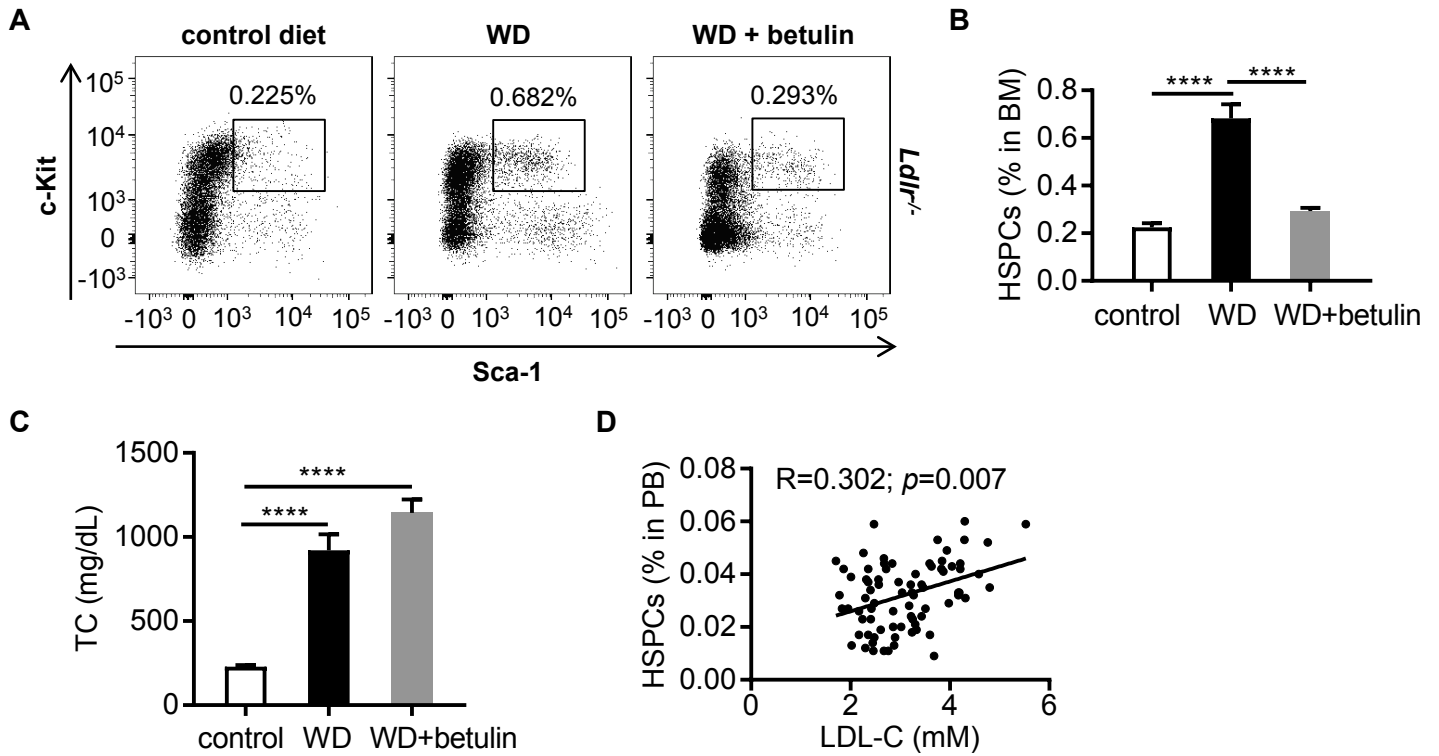


Fig. S20. Hypercholesterolemia effect on HSPC expansion. **A.** FACS analysis of Lin-Scp1+c-Kit+ HSPCs. Eight week-old male LDLR knockout mice were fed control diet, Western diet (WD), or WD in combination with betulin (600 mg/kg food) for 16 weeks, and bone marrow were isolated from these hypercholesterolemic mice for FACS analysis of Lin-Scp1+c-Kit+ HSPCs. **B.** Quantitative FACS data of HSPCs in panel **A**. **C.** Total plasma cholesterol (TC) measurements. n=10 per group. **D.** The correlation of CD34+CD45+ HSPC frequency with LDL-C levels in normal volunteers. Mean±SE; ****p<0.0001.

Table S1a. The cholesterol metabolism-associated genes that contain Srebp2 binding motif

| |
|--------|
| ABCA1 |
| ABCA12 |
| ABCA5 |
| ABCA7 |
| ABCG1 |
| ABCG2 |
| ABCG3 |
| ABCG4 |
| ABCG5 |
| ABCG8 |
| ADIPOQ |
| APOA1 |
| APOA2 |
| APOA4 |
| APOA5 |
| APOB |
| APOC2 |
| APOE |
| APOF |
| APOM |
| CAV1 |
| CD36 |
| CES1D |
| CFTR |
| COMMD1 |
| CYB5R3 |
| CYP51 |
| DHCR24 |
| DHCR7 |
| EBP |
| EGF |
| ERLIN1 |
| ERLIN2 |
| FDFT1 |
| FDPS |
| FGF1 |
| G6PDX |
| GM9745 |
| GPS2 |
| HMGCR |
| HMGCS1 |
| HMGCS2 |

| |
|---------|
| HSD17B7 |
| IDI2 |
| INSIG1 |
| INSIG2 |
| IRAK1 |
| LAMTOR1 |
| LDLR |
| LRP1 |
| LSS |
| MVD |
| MVK |
| NFKBIA |
| NPC1 |
| NPC1L1 |
| NPC2 |
| NR1H2 |
| NR1H3 |
| NSDHL |
| PEX2 |
| PLA2G10 |
| PLTP |
| PMVK |
| PON1 |
| POR |
| PRKAA1 |
| PRKAA2 |
| PTCH1 |
| SC5D |
| SCAP |
| SCARB1 |
| SCP2 |
| SEC14L2 |
| SHH |
| SIRT1 |
| SOAT1 |
| SOAT2 |
| SOD1 |
| SREBF1 |
| SREBF2 |
| STARD4 |
| STARD5 |
| STX12 |
| TM7SF2 |

WASHC1

Table S1b. Cholesterol biosynthesis genes that contain Srebp2 binding motif

| | | |
|-----------------|---------|---|
| MGI:MGI:107592 | Hmgcs1 | 3-hydroxy-3-methylglutaryl-Coenzyme A synthase 1 |
| MGI:MGI:107606 | Srebf1 | sterol regulatory element binding transcription factor 1 |
| MGI:MGI:1913363 | Apoa5 | apolipoprotein A-V |
| MGI:MGI:1915853 | Pmvk | phosphomevalonate kinase |
| MGI:MGI:95515 | Fgf1 | fibroblast growth factor 1 |
| MGI:MGI:2387613 | Erlin1 | ER lipid raft associated 1 |
| MGI:MGI:101939 | Hmgcs2 | 3-hydroxy-3-methylglutaryl-Coenzyme A synthase 2 |
| MGI:MGI:1336173 | Prkaa2 | protein kinase, AMP-activated, alpha 2 catalytic subunit |
| MGI:MGI:1336155 | Lss | lanosterol synthase |
| MGI:MGI:1920416 | Tm7sf2 | transmembrane 7 superfamily member 2 |
| MGI:MGI:2685089 | Npc1l1 | NPC1 like intracellular cholesterol transporter 1 |
| MGI:MGI:3704398 | Gm9745 | predicted gene 9745 |
| MGI:MGI:107624 | Mvk | mevalonate kinase |
| MGI:MGI:98351 | Sod1 | superoxide dismutase 1, soluble |
| MGI:MGI:1922004 | Dhcr24 | 24-dehydrocholesterol reductase |
| MGI:MGI:2148202 | Ces1d | carboxylesterase 1D |
| MGI:MGI:2135958 | Scap | SREBF chaperone |
| MGI:MGI:1298378 | Dhcr7 | 7-dehydrocholesterol reductase |
| MGI:MGI:107822 | Ebp | phenylalkylamine Ca ²⁺ antagonist (emopamil) binding protein |
| MGI:MGI:107486 | Pex2 | peroxisomal biogenesis factor 2 |
| MGI:MGI:2387215 | Erlin2 | ER lipid raft associated 2 |
| MGI:MGI:94893 | Cyb5r3 | cytochrome b5 reductase 3 |
| MGI:MGI:104888 | Fdps | farnesyl diphosphate synthetase |
| MGI:MGI:96159 | Hmgcr | 3-hydroxy-3-methylglutaryl-Coenzyme A reductase |
| MGI:MGI:105979 | G6pdx | glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase X-linked |
| MGI:MGI:2145955 | Prkaa1 | protein kinase, AMP-activated, alpha 1 catalytic subunit |
| MGI:MGI:1915065 | Sec14l2 | SEC14-like lipid binding 2 |
| MGI:MGI:88388 | Cftr | cystic fibrosis transmembrane conductance regulator |
| MGI:MGI:102706 | Fdft1 | farnesyl diphosphate farnesyl transferase 1 |
| MGI:MGI:106040 | Cyp51 | cytochrome P450, family 51 |
| MGI:MGI:1916289 | Insig1 | insulin induced gene 1 |
| MGI:MGI:88057 | ApoE | apolipoprotein E |
| MGI:MGI:88052 | ApoB | apolipoprotein B |
| MGI:MGI:88051 | ApoA4 | apolipoprotein A-IV |
| MGI:MGI:88049 | ApoA1 | apolipoprotein A-I |
| MGI:MGI:1099438 | Nsdhl | NAD(P) dependent steroid dehydrogenase-like |
| MGI:MGI:1330808 | Hsd17b7 | hydroxysteroid (17-beta) dehydrogenase 7 |
| MGI:MGI:98254 | Scp2 | sterol carrier protein 2, liver |
| MGI:MGI:1353611 | Sc5d | sterol-C5-desaturase |
| MGI:MGI:2444315 | Idi2 | isopentenyl-diphosphate delta isomerase 2 |
| MGI:MGI:2179327 | Mvd | mevalonate (diphospho) decarboxylase |
| MGI:MGI:97744 | Por | P450 (cytochrome) oxidoreductase |
| MGI:MGI:1920249 | Insig2 | insulin induced gene 2 |
| MGI:MGI:107704 | Abcg1 | ATP binding cassette subfamily G member 1 |

Table S1c. Cholesterol efflux genes that contain Srebp2 binding motif

| | | |
|-----------------|---------|---|
| MGI:MGI:107585 | Srebf2 | sterol regulatory element binding factor 2 |
| MGI:MGI:1913363 | Apoa5 | apolipoprotein A-V |
| MGI:MGI:106675 | Adipoq | adiponectin, C1Q and collagen domain containing |
| MGI:MGI:1097712 | Npc1 | NPC intracellular cholesterol transporter 1 |
| MGI:MGI:95290 | Egf | epidermal growth factor |
| MGI:MGI:103151 | Pltp | phospholipid transfer protein |
| MGI:MGI:2386607 | Abca5 | ATP-binding cassette, sub-family A (ABC1), member 5 |
| MGI:MGI:1915213 | Npc2 | NPC intracellular cholesterol transporter 2 |
| MGI:MGI:1930124 | Apom | apolipoprotein M |
| MGI:MGI:2135607 | Sirt1 | sirtuin 1 |
| MGI:MGI:1891751 | Gps2 | G protein pathway suppressor 2 |
| MGI:MGI:104539 | Apof | apolipoprotein F |
| MGI:MGI:96828 | Lrp1 | low density lipoprotein receptor-related protein 1 |
| MGI:MGI:1890594 | Abcg4 | ATP binding cassette subfamily G member 4 |
| MGI:MGI:1332226 | Soat2 | sterol O-acyltransferase 2 |
| MGI:MGI:88054 | Apoc2 | apolipoprotein C-II |
| MGI:MGI:1347061 | Abcg2 | ATP binding cassette subfamily G member 2 (Junior blood group) |
| MGI:MGI:107420 | Irak1 | interleukin-1 receptor-associated kinase 1 |
| MGI:MGI:104665 | Soat1 | sterol O-acyltransferase 1 |
| MGI:MGI:99607 | Abca1 | ATP-binding cassette, sub-family A (ABC1), member 1 |
| MGI:MGI:1914720 | Abcg8 | ATP binding cassette subfamily G member 8 |
| MGI:MGI:103295 | Pon1 | paraoxonase 1 |
| MGI:MGI:105373 | Ptch1 | patched 1 |
| MGI:MGI:2676312 | Abca12 | ATP-binding cassette, sub-family A (ABC1), member 12 |
| MGI:MGI:102709 | Cav1 | caveolin 1, caveolae protein |
| MGI:MGI:893578 | Scarb1 | scavenger receptor class B, member 1 |
| MGI:MGI:88057 | ApoE | apolipoprotein E |
| MGI:MGI:88052 | ApoB | apolipoprotein B |
| MGI:MGI:88051 | ApoA4 | apolipoprotein A-IV |
| MGI:MGI:88050 | ApoA2 | apolipoprotein A-II |
| MGI:MGI:88049 | ApoA1 | apolipoprotein A-I |
| MGI:MGI:104741 | Nfkb1a | nuclear factor of kappa light polypeptide gene enhancer in B cells inhibitor, alpha |
| MGI:MGI:98297 | Shh | sonic hedgehog |
| MGI:MGI:1352463 | Nr1h2 | nuclear receptor subfamily 1, group H, member 2 |
| MGI:MGI:1352462 | Nr1h3 | nuclear receptor subfamily 1, group H, member 3 |
| MGI:MGI:1347522 | Pla2g10 | phospholipase A2, group X |
| MGI:MGI:1931027 | Stx12 | syntaxin 12 |
| MGI:MGI:1913758 | Lamtor1 | late endosomal/lysosomal adaptor, MAPK and MTOR activator 1 |
| MGI:MGI:1351659 | Abcg5 | ATP binding cassette subfamily G member 5 |
| MGI:MGI:1351646 | Abca7 | ATP-binding cassette, sub-family A (ABC1), member 7 |
| MGI:MGI:1351624 | Abcg3 | ATP binding cassette subfamily G member 3 |
| MGI:MGI:107704 | Abcg1 | ATP binding cassette subfamily G member 1 |

Table S1d. Cholesterol uptake genes that contain Srebp2 binding motif

| | | |
|-----------------|---------|---|
| MGI:MGI:96765 | Ldlr | low density lipoprotein receptor |
| MGI:MGI:107899 | Cd36 | CD36 molecule |
| MGI:MGI:109474 | Commd1 | COMM domain containing 1 |
| MGI:MGI:893578 | Scarb1 | scavenger receptor class B, member 1 |
| MGI:MGI:88050 | Apoa2 | apolipoprotein A-II |
| MGI:MGI:88049 | Apoa1 | apolipoprotein A-I |
| MGI:MGI:98254 | Scp2 | sterol carrier protein 2, liver |
| MGI:MGI:1913758 | Lamtor1 | late endosomal/lysosomal adaptor, MAPK and MTOR activator 1 |
| MGI:MGI:2156765 | Stard5 | StAR-related lipid transfer (START) domain containing 5 |
| MGI:MGI:2156764 | Stard4 | StAR-related lipid transfer (START) domain containing 4 |
| MGI:MGI:1916017 | Washc1 | WASH complex subunit 1 |

Table S2. Srebp2 binding motifs are enriched in promoters of Notch pathway genes (shown in red).

| DAVID Gene Name |
|---|
| <u>C-terminal binding protein 1(Ctbp1)</u> |
| <u>C-terminal binding protein 2(Ctbp2)</u> |
| <u>CREB binding protein(Crebbp)</u> |
| <u>E1A binding protein p300(Ep300)</u> |
| <u>K(lysine) acetyltransferase 2A(Kat2a)</u> |
| <u>K(lysine) acetyltransferase 2B(Kat2b)</u> |
| <u>LFNG O-fucosylpeptide 3-beta-N-acetylglucosaminyltransferase(Lfng)</u> |
| <u>MFNG O-fucosylpeptide 3-beta-N-acetylglucosaminyltransferase(Mfng)</u> |
| <u>RFNG O-fucosylpeptide 3-beta-N-acetylglucosaminyltransferase(Rfng)</u> |
| <u>SNW domain containing 1(Snw1)</u> |
| <u>a disintegrin and metallopeptidase domain 17(Adam17)</u> |
| <u>aph1 homolog A, gamma secretase subunit(Aph1a)</u> |
| <u>aph1 homolog B, gamma secretase subunit(Aph1b)</u> |
| <u>aph1 homolog C, gamma secretase subunit(Aph1c)</u> |
| <u>corepressor interacting with RBPJ, 1(Cir1)</u> |
| <u>delta-like 1 (Drosophila)(Dll1)</u> |
| <u>delta-like 3 (Drosophila)(Dll3)</u> |
| <u>delta-like 4 (Drosophila)(Dll4)</u> |
| <u>deltex 1, E3 ubiquitin liqase(Dtx1)</u> |
| <u>deltex 2, E3 ubiquitin liqase(Dtx2)</u> |
| <u>deltex 3, E3 ubiquitin liqase(Dtx3)</u> |
| <u>deltex 3-like, E3 ubiquitin liqase(Dtx3l)</u> |
| <u>deltex 4, E3 ubiquitin liqase(Dtx4)</u> |
| <u>dishevelled segment polarity protein 1(Dvl1)</u> |
| <u>dishevelled segment polarity protein 2(Dvl2)</u> |
| <u>dishevelled segment polarity protein 3(Dvl3)</u> |
| <u>hairy and enhancer of split 1 (Drosophila)(Hes1)</u> |
| <u>hairy and enhancer of split 5 (Drosophila)(Hes5)</u> |
| <u>histone deacetylase 1(Hdac1)</u> |
| <u>histone deacetylase 2(Hdac2)</u> |
| <u>jaqged 1(Jaq1)</u> |
| <u>jaqged 2(Jaq2)</u> |
| <u>mastermind like 1 (Drosophila)(Maml1)</u> |
| <u>mastermind like 2 (Drosophila)(Maml2)</u> |
| <u>mastermind like 3 (Drosophila)(Maml3)</u> |
| <u>nicastrin(Ncstn)</u> |
| <u>notch 1(Notch1)</u> |
| <u>notch 2(Notch2)</u> |
| <u>notch 3(Notch3)</u> |
| <u>notch 4(Notch4)</u> |
| <u>nuclear receptor co-repressor 2(Ncor2)</u> |
| <u>numb homolog (Drosophila)(Numb)</u> |
| <u>numb-like(Numb1)</u> |
| <u>pre T cell antigen receptor alpha(Ptcra)</u> |
| <u>presenilin 1(Psen1)</u> |
| <u>presenilin 2(Psen2)</u> |
| <u>presenilin enhancer gamma secretase subunit(Psenen)</u> |
| <u>recombination signal binding protein for immunoglobulin kappa J region(Rbpj)</u> |
| <u>recombination signal binding protein for immunoglobulin kappa J region-like(Rbpjl)</u> |

Table S3a. Change of Notch pathway genes comparing HEC with EC

| Gene | # of times appear | log2(Fold chang) (HEC) | Diff exp P-value |
|---------|-------------------|------------------------|------------------|
| JAG2 | 2 | 7.362250515 | 1.14E-07 |
| HEY2 | 1 | 4.746263029 | 9.75E-05 |
| HEY1 | 1 | 4.069871741 | 0.000104339 |
| NOTCH4 | 2 | 5.347014595 | 0.000183082 |
| NRARP | 1 | 4.069648014 | 0.000204744 |
| JAG1 | 2 | 2.362962772 | 0.000240383 |
| NOTCH1 | 4 | 1.940885625 | 0.002655422 |
| AKT1S1 | 1 | 3.165303671 | 0.006073467 |
| RBM15 | 2 | -2.587416137 | 0.009175135 |
| HHEX | 1 | 1.636351781 | 0.016751957 |
| RFNG | 2 | 2.82382368 | 0.02014869 |
| DLK1 | 1 | -1.709945003 | 0.035808479 |
| MAML3 | 3 | -1.945902209 | 0.044649966 |
| NEURL1A | 1 | 2.031319626 | 0.048199048 |
| MMP14 | 1 | 1.270678412 | 0.048514294 |
| POFUT1 | 1 | 1.432351736 | 0.062647205 |
| BMP2 | 1 | -2.262278505 | 0.06407152 |
| APP | 1 | 0.962012689 | 0.068188477 |
| WDR12 | 1 | -1.083110912 | 0.07672339 |
| NFKBIA | 1 | 1.166448359 | 0.096545253 |
| AAK1 | 1 | 1.06754936 | 0.120146716 |
| ZFP423 | 1 | 1.322918465 | 0.121315247 |
| SNAI2 | 1 | -1.235889379 | 0.15364244 |
| PTP4A3 | 1 | 1.241701997 | 0.195540395 |
| ANXA4 | 1 | 1.164331887 | 0.196734191 |
| TSPAN14 | 1 | 0.66541052 | 0.204235584 |
| IFT88 | 1 | -1.333273616 | 0.216204875 |
| GMDS | 1 | 1.16651271 | 0.216686713 |
| FBXW7 | 1 | 0.81963942 | 0.220458472 |
| DVL1 | 1 | 1.18833712 | 0.231669446 |
| HIF1AN | 1 | 0.781202807 | 0.251182777 |
| CBFA2T2 | 1 | -0.894863737 | 0.251551565 |
| IFT172 | 1 | -1.048449517 | 0.283765558 |
| CTBP2 | 1 | 0.55270453 | 0.315820046 |
| NOTCH2 | 3 | -0.762831732 | 0.331708358 |
| EPN2 | 1 | 0.74253827 | 0.34751614 |
| CREB1 | 1 | -0.658827114 | 0.352054037 |
| MAML2 | 3 | 0.729311802 | 0.397351435 |
| RBPJ | 3 | -0.620409698 | 0.399002518 |
| RPS27A | 1 | -0.90166926 | 0.408316225 |
| DVL3 | 1 | 0.666404015 | 0.429750958 |
| MAML1 | 3 | 0.706923888 | 0.450916152 |
| MIB1 | 1 | -0.413460627 | 0.453994008 |

| | | | |
|---------|---|--------------|-------------|
| EPN1 | 1 | 0.581602034 | 0.492295458 |
| FOXC1 | 1 | 0.600484887 | 0.512860267 |
| TSPAN15 | 1 | 0.650500101 | 0.515837846 |
| NCSTN | 3 | 0.363150355 | 0.523219527 |
| CIR1 | 1 | 0.644369944 | 0.536016829 |
| UBA52 | 1 | -0.313822863 | 0.545182737 |
| ADAM10 | 2 | 0.323043445 | 0.557691895 |
| UBB | 1 | -0.306164968 | 0.568502202 |
| EP300 | 2 | 0.381843742 | 0.621325029 |
| UBC | 1 | -0.475057838 | 0.62507336 |
| POGLUT1 | 1 | -0.41981102 | 0.625912581 |
| PSEN2 | 3 | 0.425590521 | 0.635478989 |
| CDKN1B | 1 | -0.424384531 | 0.654610603 |
| HDAC2 | 1 | 0.25394141 | 0.661346187 |
| RPS19 | 1 | -0.218695378 | 0.710642663 |
| GOT1 | 1 | -0.261127946 | 0.722561681 |
| NOTCH3 | 2 | 0.290447844 | 0.729789839 |
| NCOR2 | 1 | 0.355122387 | 0.741319204 |
| KAT2B | 2 | 0.312498847 | 0.770603122 |
| CTBP1 | 1 | 0.179242603 | 0.785423065 |
| KAT2A | 1 | 0.200850154 | 0.794444433 |
| NLE1 | 1 | 0.2150448 | 0.794514474 |
| APH1C | 3 | 0.247053013 | 0.823824328 |
| HDAC1 | 1 | 0.144010226 | 0.828560556 |
| SEL1L | 1 | -0.085195518 | 0.882046495 |
| GALNT11 | 2 | 0.1576658 | 0.898964415 |
| HES1 | 2 | 0.062471624 | 0.940714588 |
| SORBS2 | 1 | 0.064725343 | 0.953648761 |
| CREBBP | 1 | 0.026316577 | 0.967616258 |

Table S3b. Change of cholesterol metabolism pathway genes comparing HEC with EC

| Gene | # of times appear | log2(Fold chang) (HEC/EC) | Diff exp P-value |
|-------------|-------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|
| SEC14L2 | 8 | 4.957678406 | 0.000152535 |
| PLTP | 7 | 2.769841564 | 0.014974845 |
| EIF2AK3 | 2 | 2.132574152 | 0.098102653 |
| SCAP | 6 | 2.022933346 | 0.038697685 |
| APLP2 | 2 | 2.02107539 | 0.002894879 |
| RALY | 1 | 1.684979016 | 0.058350608 |
| STARD4 | 6 | 1.553754438 | 0.013892637 |
| ARHGEF10L | 2 | 1.381938812 | 0.179991713 |
| NFKBIA | 7 | 1.166448359 | 0.096545253 |
| LRP5 | 4 | 1.139912845 | 0.30632407 |
| LDLRAP1 | 8 | 1.100952011 | 0.333015644 |
| APP | 2 | 0.962012689 | 0.068188477 |
| SREBF2 | 8 | 0.954528475 | 0.273842756 |
| EBPL | 1 | 0.832745415 | 0.473021039 |
| PRKAA1 | 4 | 0.830777528 | 0.387830374 |
| FBXW7 | 2 | 0.81963942 | 0.220458472 |
| OSBP | 1 | 0.768200332 | 0.329734869 |
| PLSCR3 | 2 | 0.751204346 | 0.370117245 |
| NUS1 | 7 | 0.694701287 | 0.275488583 |
| FDX1 | 2 | 0.690024546 | 0.526056943 |
| IRAK1 | 5 | 0.628618136 | 0.307646993 |
| CYB5R3 | 4 | 0.619989322 | 0.23681679 |
| ACADL | 1 | 0.545544675 | 0.46967596 |
| DHCR24 | 4 | 0.542961152 | 0.405182987 |
| NCOR1 | 2 | 0.542291146 | 0.302325299 |
| ALMS1 | 2 | 0.48740096 | 0.652327938 |
| POR | 8 | 0.486876484 | 0.512549867 |
| CAT | 2 | 0.464983481 | 0.373108116 |
| NPC1 | 8 | 0.437729869 | 0.557767297 |
| MVD | 4 | 0.405492969 | 0.572167642 |
| FDFT1 | 4 | 0.394481456 | 0.496915235 |
| MVK | 4 | 0.364316493 | 0.602610088 |
| LIPA | 1 | 0.350428871 | 0.612735015 |
| SOD1 | 6 | 0.338524657 | 0.51289941 |
| STARD5 | 4 | 0.329371511 | 0.730176194 |
| SEC24A | 3 | 0.271346949 | 0.727191154 |
| VPS4A | 4 | 0.25986533 | 0.745719666 |
| SC5D | 4 | 0.237845855 | 0.656300252 |
| SQLE | 3 | 0.214361107 | 0.706041565 |
| CYP51 | 4 | 0.185378835 | 0.764991409 |
| XBP1 | 2 | 0.142430776 | 0.831781214 |
| MBTPS1 | 2 | 0.115683538 | 0.851831641 |
| HSD17B7 | 4 | 0.090373003 | 0.919523692 |
| LRP6 | 4 | 0.084075594 | 0.899726308 |

| | | | |
|---------------|----|--------------|-------------|
| STX12 | 3 | 0.061889461 | 0.908238917 |
| APOE | 16 | 0.005023259 | 0.996350352 |
| SCARB1 | 10 | -0.045157175 | 0.94074908 |
| NPC2 | 9 | -0.05562968 | 0.908456359 |
| ACAT2 | 6 | -0.09654719 | 0.856116033 |
| DHCR7 | 6 | -0.111301831 | 0.858267132 |
| PMVK | 4 | -0.149656334 | 0.803094631 |
| INSIG1 | 6 | -0.173820112 | 0.797948061 |
| MED13 | 2 | -0.222971652 | 0.707502184 |
| LMF1 | 1 | -0.240658231 | 0.773841754 |
| HMGCR | 4 | -0.249345503 | 0.650411767 |
| SCP2 | 18 | -0.254876954 | 0.70441867 |
| FDPS | 8 | -0.260892245 | 0.708450484 |
| ERLIN1 | 8 | -0.272660412 | 0.721968556 |
| ABCA1 | 14 | -0.279572895 | 0.720927232 |
| FECH | 2 | -0.284983708 | 0.789067383 |
| ABCG1 | 20 | -0.317942766 | 0.685570066 |
| EHD1 | 2 | -0.318765233 | 0.629343315 |
| ERLIN2 | 8 | -0.364362147 | 0.569132555 |
| NR1H2 | 10 | -0.404516851 | 0.662920119 |
| EBP | 4 | -0.520064875 | 0.429361331 |
| LDLR | 9 | -0.522283001 | 0.454526688 |
| SIRT1 | 9 | -0.546444873 | 0.497294686 |
| 0610007P14RIK | 2 | -0.551977544 | 0.363340037 |
| ARV1 | 4 | -0.566855761 | 0.636825892 |
| HDLBP | 2 | -0.589494729 | 0.346422617 |
| PTCH1 | 7 | -0.623782738 | 0.411315321 |
| TMEM97 | 2 | -0.638546632 | 0.312868785 |
| EIF2A | 2 | -0.705841327 | 0.173197201 |
| SREBF1 | 8 | -0.799218187 | 0.381555969 |
| LSS | 4 | -0.816420281 | 0.294427852 |
| CYB5R1 | 2 | -0.876094896 | 0.400451563 |
| INSIG2 | 6 | -0.891956344 | 0.390466767 |
| LBR | 2 | -0.906051057 | 0.093598969 |
| LMNA | 2 | -1.321228473 | 0.08537494 |
| LIPE | 2 | -1.337468438 | 0.280230842 |
| APOC1 | 7 | -1.46110442 | 0.168217764 |
| TM7SF2 | 4 | -1.679981186 | 0.13701982 |

Table S3c. Change of Notch pathway genes comparing HSC with HEC

| Gene | # of times | log2(Fold chang) (HSC/HEC) | Diff exp P-value |
|---------|------------|----------------------------|------------------|
| HEY2 | 1 | -7.664878096 | 4.51E-11 |
| JAG1 | 2 | -3.523747836 | 6.51E-10 |
| MMP14 | 1 | -2.968574017 | 3.70E-05 |
| HEY1 | 1 | -5.012551728 | 9.93E-05 |
| NFKBIA | 1 | -2.045542706 | 0.000964538 |
| RBM15 | 2 | 3.358324373 | 0.001166669 |
| SNAI2 | 1 | -5.002404763 | 0.001215447 |
| NOTCH4 | 2 | -4.168139294 | 0.00138803 |
| FOXC1 | 1 | -3.859317867 | 0.009684347 |
| EPN2 | 1 | -2.455009683 | 0.013154724 |
| FBXW7 | 1 | -1.837543015 | 0.018832468 |
| MAML3 | 3 | 2.425517279 | 0.022395731 |
| TSPAN15 | 1 | -2.602421872 | 0.037533101 |
| WDR12 | 1 | 1.202033844 | 0.039746054 |
| APP | 1 | -1.457760527 | 0.05359721 |
| NRARP | 1 | -1.811837437 | 0.06376742 |
| EPN1 | 1 | -1.65348713 | 0.071217564 |
| CREB1 | 1 | 1.120027491 | 0.073495613 |
| NEURL1A | 1 | -1.626313655 | 0.09210213 |
| CTBP2 | 1 | -0.881544835 | 0.096807308 |
| IFT172 | 1 | 1.650680271 | 0.113157794 |
| AAK1 | 1 | -1.038626679 | 0.115413266 |
| JAG2 | 2 | -1.493543406 | 0.116349968 |
| HES1 | 2 | -1.261942259 | 0.116403415 |
| MIB1 | 1 | 0.663778627 | 0.178430679 |
| POGLUT1 | 1 | 1.042667518 | 0.187209894 |
| DVL3 | 1 | -1.180860241 | 0.206983057 |
| NOTCH3 | 2 | -1.153643468 | 0.229959927 |
| GMDS | 1 | -1.017601671 | 0.237874804 |
| PTP4A3 | 1 | 0.592891664 | 0.238100563 |
| CREBBP | 1 | 0.582536032 | 0.268627948 |
| ZFP423 | 1 | -1.104472398 | 0.305759313 |
| CDK6 | 1 | 1.158533029 | 0.326724126 |
| NLE1 | 1 | 0.672612068 | 0.336412369 |
| NCOR2 | 1 | 0.938831836 | 0.371796306 |
| ADAM10 | 2 | 0.386436991 | 0.394827702 |
| RPS19 | 1 | -0.399813657 | 0.400633138 |
| NOTCH1 | 4 | -0.360352496 | 0.45670573 |
| DVL1 | 1 | -0.699321629 | 0.462454181 |
| CBFA2T2 | 1 | 0.56075845 | 0.466038929 |
| MAML1 | 3 | 0.585065176 | 0.475679722 |

| | | | |
|---------|---|--------------|-------------|
| MIB2 | 1 | 0.835879293 | 0.488674571 |
| UBB | 1 | -0.285131458 | 0.518201111 |
| TSPAN14 | 1 | 0.278186876 | 0.523606359 |
| RFNG | 2 | 0.670188041 | 0.569448279 |
| ANXA4 | 1 | -0.475622267 | 0.571658828 |
| DLK1 | 1 | -0.55502161 | 0.57947284 |
| CTBP1 | 1 | -0.282604902 | 0.674315458 |
| NOTCH2 | 3 | 0.279154126 | 0.724523507 |
| HDAC1 | 1 | -0.219675586 | 0.728242038 |
| KAT2A | 1 | 0.249367128 | 0.730508433 |
| AKT1S1 | 1 | -0.347270583 | 0.739946249 |
| HDAC2 | 1 | -0.159054047 | 0.758382076 |
| KAT2B | 2 | -0.328109901 | 0.771774181 |
| POFUT1 | 1 | -0.185761599 | 0.800722179 |
| PSEN2 | 3 | 0.221795467 | 0.800884054 |
| GALNT11 | 2 | 0.220465072 | 0.838764868 |
| SEL1L | 1 | -0.095138933 | 0.843161444 |
| EP300 | 2 | 0.122447226 | 0.864847317 |
| RPS27A | 1 | 0.168058518 | 0.884526503 |
| UBA52 | 1 | 0.040571344 | 0.926528795 |
| MAML2 | 3 | 0.06393382 | 0.930808356 |
| GOT1 | 1 | -0.047897717 | 0.940410533 |
| IFT88 | 1 | 0.075158179 | 0.942592963 |
| HIF1AN | 1 | 0.040390746 | 0.945445429 |
| SORBS2 | 1 | 0.074131152 | 0.946020819 |
| NCSTN | 3 | -0.028856701 | 0.952293517 |
| SPEN | 1 | 0.051787942 | 0.955921127 |
| UBC | 1 | 0.050380158 | 0.963071403 |
| CDKN1B | 1 | 0.02447748 | 0.98177917 |
| RBPJ | 3 | 0.018820524 | 0.982316707 |
| HHEX | 1 | -0.008717822 | 0.988111901 |

Table S3d. Change of cholesterol metabolism pathway genes comparing HSC with HEC

| Gene | # of times appear in c | log2(Fold chang | Diff exp P-value |
|---------------|------------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| LIPE | 2 | 2.471618202 | 0.064043458 |
| LBR | 2 | 1.42844294 | 0.002025063 |
| RORA | 1 | 1.186224185 | 0.341849316 |
| PCTP | 2 | 1.155216282 | 0.27988294 |
| INSIG2 | 6 | 1.007352134 | 0.334807538 |
| ALMS1 | 2 | 0.917840994 | 0.357434285 |
| SEC14L2 | 8 | 0.846735038 | 0.479742893 |
| ERLIN1 | 8 | 0.845674822 | 0.187175522 |
| LDLRAP1 | 8 | 0.80154864 | 0.388220977 |
| LDLR | 9 | 0.694070972 | 0.315895876 |
| ABCA1 | 14 | 0.671649918 | 0.356179966 |
| SIRT1 | 9 | 0.624078423 | 0.444459786 |
| HDLBP | 2 | 0.505694337 | 0.291496181 |
| HMGCR | 4 | 0.45182606 | 0.365204046 |
| SOD1 | 6 | 0.450537406 | 0.290515856 |
| MBTPS1 | 2 | 0.446442558 | 0.393559978 |
| EIF2A | 2 | 0.400488768 | 0.385468947 |
| APOE | 16 | 0.395621153 | 0.635899642 |
| SREBF1 | 8 | 0.385664213 | 0.691005174 |
| SREBF2 | 8 | 0.363980973 | 0.599556944 |
| POR | 8 | 0.3214638 | 0.616080986 |
| NCOR1 | 2 | 0.319125529 | 0.49122151 |
| SCP2 | 18 | 0.254413603 | 0.685664796 |
| ABCG1 | 20 | 0.253401706 | 0.759855122 |
| LRP6 | 4 | 0.237631577 | 0.683672082 |
| LRP5 | 4 | 0.180185416 | 0.864506808 |
| CLN6 | 2 | 0.138022188 | 0.892422907 |
| STX12 | 3 | 0.101736665 | 0.829665108 |
| EHD1 | 2 | 0.085346375 | 0.890487334 |
| ERLIN2 | 8 | 0.064313011 | 0.916160843 |
| MED13 | 2 | 0.0190128 | 0.979428365 |
| PTCH1 | 7 | 0.004830995 | 0.996277416 |
| SCARB1 | 10 | -0.036423018 | 0.945310266 |
| SEC24A | 3 | -0.046426884 | 0.947410253 |
| 0610007P14RIK | 2 | -0.076786234 | 0.892260298 |
| IRAK1 | 5 | -0.118230669 | 0.834936613 |
| VPS4A | 4 | -0.160348535 | 0.840778393 |
| PRKAA1 | 4 | -0.201813804 | 0.814121717 |
| ACAT2 | 6 | -0.212907633 | 0.710312644 |
| CAT | 2 | -0.214909053 | 0.637983223 |
| DHCR7 | 6 | -0.255246238 | 0.687943721 |
| ACADL | 1 | -0.330599756 | 0.658002303 |
| LMNA | 2 | -0.334341864 | 0.722542967 |

| | | | |
|-----------|----|--------------|-------------|
| LSS | 4 | -0.336444201 | 0.702477769 |
| CYB5R3 | 4 | -0.351852219 | 0.429453555 |
| SCAP | 6 | -0.402670344 | 0.669222789 |
| TMEM97 | 2 | -0.454835354 | 0.520301743 |
| PMVK | 4 | -0.457860617 | 0.466165183 |
| NPC1 | 8 | -0.532252685 | 0.524468398 |
| DHCR24 | 4 | -0.584250268 | 0.367285877 |
| LMF1 | 1 | -0.619906563 | 0.508841612 |
| HSD17B7 | 4 | -0.623061433 | 0.523824715 |
| OSBP | 1 | -0.626682044 | 0.43679279 |
| SQLE | 3 | -0.63294548 | 0.194944882 |
| STARD5 | 4 | -0.669530607 | 0.521967212 |
| EBPL | 1 | -0.680438402 | 0.582190539 |
| RALY | 1 | -0.73091694 | 0.364126851 |
| NUS1 | 7 | -0.755468313 | 0.209045707 |
| INSIG1 | 6 | -0.76573845 | 0.278805789 |
| EBP | 4 | -0.794622839 | 0.270559424 |
| APOC1 | 7 | -0.812948951 | 0.461678453 |
| NR1H2 | 10 | -0.839447428 | 0.487760887 |
| PLSCR3 | 2 | -0.915306448 | 0.160425756 |
| FDPS | 8 | -0.966469106 | 0.206667069 |
| CYP51 | 4 | -0.977619297 | 0.129316114 |
| LIPA | 1 | -0.978721774 | 0.11343428 |
| NR1H3 | 10 | -1.070527866 | 0.410628393 |
| STARD4 | 6 | -1.191021125 | 0.044544281 |
| FDX1 | 2 | -1.242046983 | 0.304660637 |
| NPC2 | 9 | -1.285796001 | 0.004432627 |
| SC5D | 4 | -1.390461924 | 0.012726943 |
| FDFT1 | 4 | -1.407917282 | 0.019760002 |
| APP | 2 | -1.457760527 | 0.05359721 |
| MVK | 4 | -1.564995904 | 0.135597686 |
| EIF2AK3 | 2 | -1.671004231 | 0.151209036 |
| MVD | 4 | -1.701811923 | 0.043350402 |
| FECH | 2 | -1.753379429 | 0.169300097 |
| APLP2 | 2 | -1.756258276 | 0.00088965 |
| FBXW7 | 2 | -1.837543015 | 0.018832468 |
| NFKBIA | 7 | -2.045542706 | 0.000964538 |
| XBP1 | 2 | -2.05417566 | 0.012949342 |
| ARHGEF10L | 2 | -2.472033202 | 0.033441641 |
| PLTP | 7 | -3.021124726 | 0.002291993 |

Table S4. Characterization of the 80 qualified male volunteers.

| | Total | L-LDL Group | H-LDL Group | P |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| Age(y) | 45.00±10.57 | 44.21±10.98 | 45.94±10.11 | 0.471 |
| BMI(cm²/Kg) | 24.68±3.61 | 23.82±3.05 | 25.75±4.04 | 0.103 |
| Systolic BP(mmHg) | 118.56±10.89 | 116.20±10.15 | 121.50±11.37 | 0.149 |
| Diastolic BP(mmHg) | 72.58±8.81 | 74.10±7.33 | 77.38±10.33 | 0.274 |
| WBC (10⁹/L) | 6.10±1.21 | 5.93±1.30 | 6.28±1.09 | 0.200 |
| Monocyte (10⁹/L) | 0.44±0.13 | 0.43±0.15 | 0.45±0.11 | 0.489 |
| Neutrophil (10⁹/L) | 3.45±0.93 | 3.37±1.00 | 3.54±0.85 | 0.433 |
| Lymphocyte (10⁹/L) | 2.01±0.49 | 1.95±0.54 | 2.09±0.42 | 0.215 |
| BG (mM) | 5.05±0.42 | 5.08±0.41 | 5.00±0.44 | 0.471 |
| TC (mM) | 4.99±0.98 | 4.30±0.52 | 5.81±0.70 | 1.07×10 ⁻¹⁸ |
| TG (mM) | 2.15±1.97 | 1.85±1.31 | 2.51±2.52 | 0.137 |
| HDL (mM) | 1.28±0.36 | 1.32±0.43 | 1.23±0.24 | 0.249 |

*n=79; mean±SD; low-LDL (<3.19 mM), high-LDL (≥3.19 mM)

BP: blood pressure; WBC: white blood cells; BG: blood glucose; TC: total cholesterol; TG: total triglycerides.

References and Notes

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